

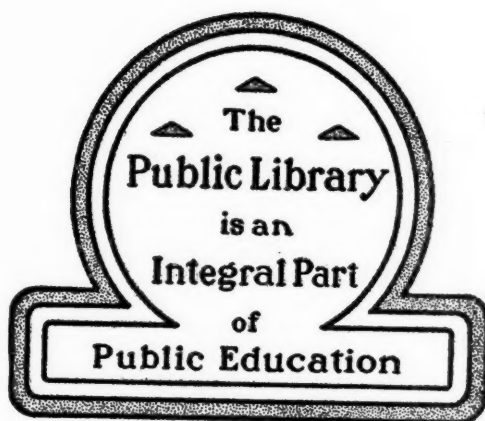
Vol. 14

October, 1909

No. 8

13

Public Libraries



Library Bureau
156 Wabash Ave.

Chicago, Illinois

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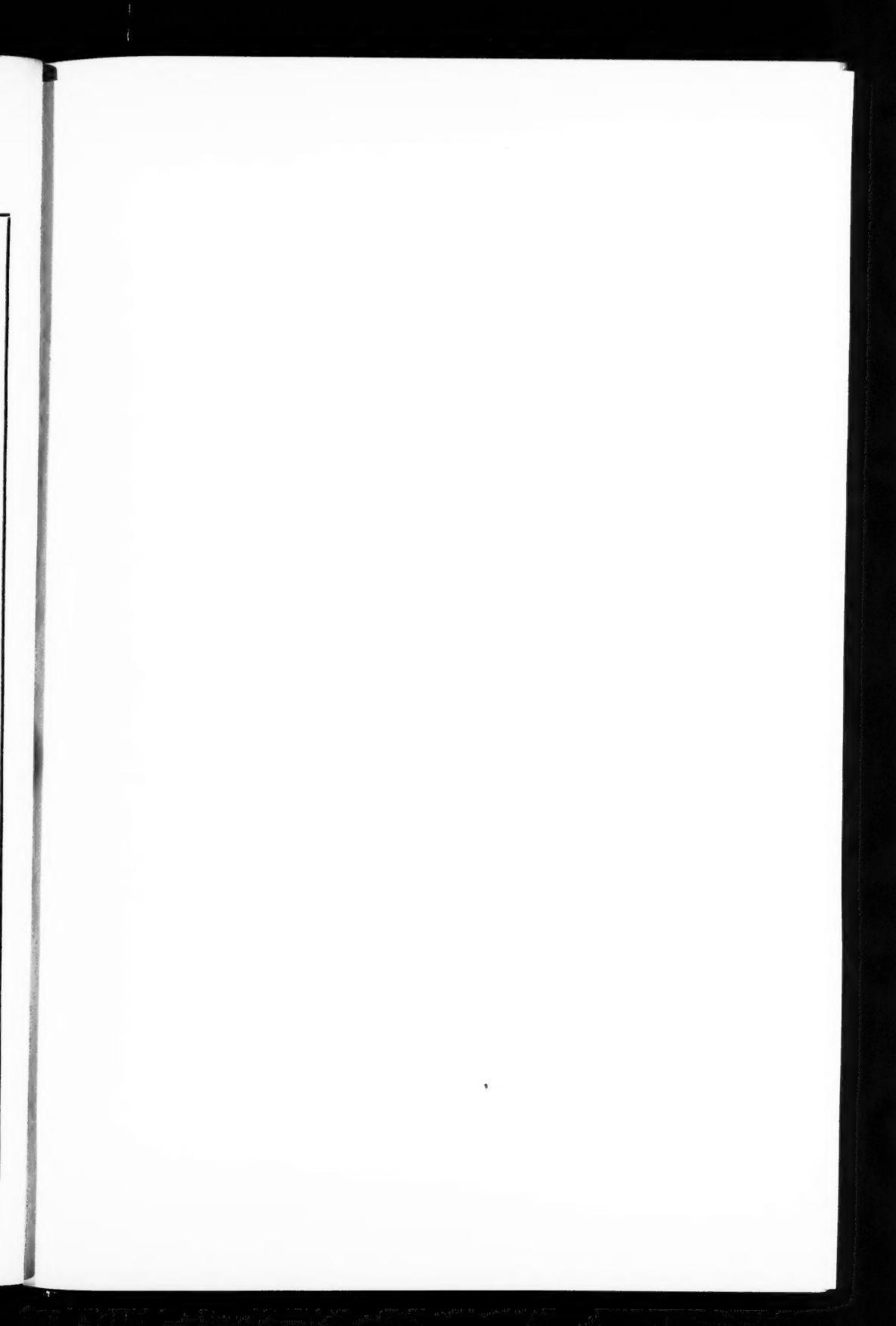
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Public Libraries

A monthly publication devoted to the advancement of library work

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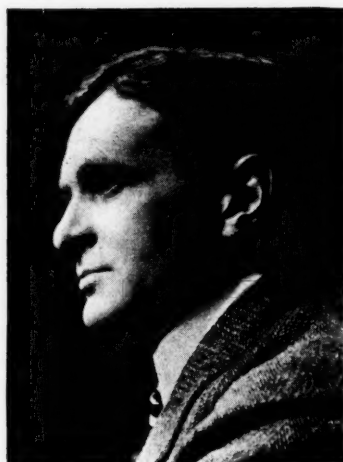
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Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

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October, 1909.

No. 8

The Things That Matter: An Attempt at a Study in Values*

Mrs. Theresa West Elmendorf, vice-librarian,
Public library, Buffalo, N. Y.

Here and now in these United States we find these two lines: on the one hand a great, conglomerate people making a vast and hazardous experiment in self-government and so in need of the best wisdom that it is possible to gain; on the other hand the perfection of printing machinery pouring forth such a flood of books and papers that it seems in deed and in truth that the world will not suffice to contain them. Is this not at once an example of the creation of a need and such a possibility of fulfillment as the process of evolution might teach us to expect?

Shall not an institution that can select, organize, make available, and, above all, disseminate the wisdom thus needed and thus accessible be the most powerful agent for the preservation and perfecting of democratic society that the world knows? May it not be more than "the social memory" (George E. Vincent, *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, v. 9:479), even social experience and social conscience? Should it not be the coadjutor of the family, the supplement of the school, the lay brother of the church, inspirer of law, bulwark of government?

But, after all, this is theory, and, even though the theory can be sup-

ported by testimony from a long line of economists, historians and poets, it perhaps belongs for consideration to those who devise policies and find ways and means rather than to us to whom belongs the administration of things as they are.

For this reason, if for no other, let us leave it in the background only, a possible if not-at-present attainable good that may sometime inspire a purpose to attain it. The philosophers more than hint that the power an unrealized good has to incite a purpose and invent means to attain itself is a fair measure of the good's real value.

The following sentence gave the final jar that began the precipitation of what I mean to ask you to think over with me:

"It is important that the library schools shall be kept up to the highest standard, and this can be done only by an intelligent discretion on the part of librarians in selecting their assistants at the end of the school term from schools which exemplify the highest standards." (*Library Journal*, 1908:347.)

Is it all as simple as that? What are "highest standards," not for library schools only, but for librarianship at large? Are highest standards for me, if I have, possibly, settled them pretty clearly for myself, necessarily the same for you? Might not a certain amount of theory as to standards possibly be a useful contribution for further discussion?

Here seems to be warrant, paraphrased from Plato, for pausing in the

*Mrs. Elmendorf was the A. L. A. speaker in 1908 at the state library meetings in Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Ohio, where she made a deep impression by her address, here given in response to a general request that *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* print it.

consideration of ways to do and for turning to ways of thought:

"The idea of a thing, its form, identifying aspect, purpose and true function—these and not its material embodiment and perishable accidents are what concern us." (Dr. Paul Shorey, *Plato*, p. 184.)

"The statesman rises above the politician, the thinker and artist above the rhetorician, the true teacher above the charlatan, by his possession of an aim and a standard, his apprehension of a type of perfection toward which all his thoughts and words and acts converge." (Dr. Paul Shorey, *The unity of Plato's thought*, p. 18.)

May we not then profitably, perhaps, reason a while together about "the things that matter," just to be sure that we are all talking about the same things when we talk of highest standards, and that we have some common ground in our notions of real values in library administration?

Now problems of the estimation of values, of the search for standard good, fall for the philosopher into two departments of thought, ethics and religion. Harald Höffding, *Philosophical Problems*, p. 157). But for us, professionally, they fall only into ethics, the realm of worth as it is found in human affairs, human property, human institutions.

We are not now concerned to talk over together problems of the things that matter in our personal lives, but rather to consider those that matter in the conduct of a social institution, a community concern.

We may, perhaps, take for granted the statement that the profession of a librarian is the most social of all social callings. So social is it that the extreme individualist opponents of socialistic tendencies see a serious menace in the development of the public library as an encroachment upon individual liberty. (Thomas Mackay, *A plea for liberty*, p. 329.) But where

may we turn for practical guidance in purely social ethics, i e, the true relation of the individual to the community, the wise ordering of an individual's life as a true servant of the community?

Ethics, today, is intensely complicated by divided interests, and we think of the just claims of family, of class, of church, of party, of business, of a thousand and one greater and less demands until most of us forget, or remember but rarely, that containing, including relation which should unite them all, i e, whether or not many people, the whole community, will be the better or the worse for our life as one of them.

I am far from meaning that we do not quite often enough think, with a complacency sometimes ill-founded, how we can "do good" to other people. I am also quite as far from suggesting that we one and all should take a hand in what is commonly known as politics. It is quite another matter so to order one's own individual life that that natural personal life shall be a positive good, not a bane, to the community. It has an essential element of really minding one's own business that is quite satisfying.

If we could find any sure standard for such a relation might it not furnish clews to the wise ordering of the professional life of a librarian? Once-upon-a-time there was a city the affairs of whose citizens were thus ordered.

Then none was for a party
Then all were for the state.

"The commonest citizen could never altogether forget that his actual existence was bound up with his discharge of civic duty. The soldier was a citizen soldier, the poet a citizen poet, the artist a citizen artist, the philosopher a citizen philosopher." (Bernard Bosanquet, *Aspects of the social problem*, p. 5.)

"His whole ideal of conduct was bound up with his intimate and per-

sonal participation in public affairs." (G. Lowes Dickinson, *Greek view of life*, p. 122.)

Now there was in that city a great teacher "to whom with his followers we owe our definite scheme of virtue and duty." (Bernard Bosanquet.) Does it not seem that if we could get at the spirit of this scheme it might well be the spirit of our own standards?

Let us go back for a moment to get as clear a picture as we may of the time and the circumstances. The "bright and stately city of romance" had ruled for one great century over the "land of gods and godlike men." From that century "has streamed upon ages less illustrious an influence at once the sanest and the most inspired of all that have shaped the secular history of the world." (G. Lowes Dickinson, *Greek view of life*, p. 103.)

But there came a day when the city's wisest saw that worldly dominion was fast passing from her grasp. What they did not see—what they could not see—was that through the very passing of that worldly dominion there should come from their own thinking "an intellectual empire which is mightiest of the mighty, which after the lapse of seventy generations shows no sign of decay but is still, as of yore, fresh with the dews of immortal youth." (Jacob Gould Schurman, *Putnam's*, Aug., '07, p. 559.)

Both power and the specter of departing power disturbed old standards of thought and life. Uncertain of their own minds, anxious, some of them at least, for their city, there came together from time to time, gathering about their great and famous teacher, a more or less stable group of young, strong men, of the best that the city had bred, and for the first time, and some say for the last time thus far, "men talked with men seriously, passionately of other topics than those of business or practical politics." (Paul Shorey, *Plato*, p. 174.)

It is related that they met again and again, attracted each time by some apparently chance event, to discuss many and various things. So many and so various were the subjects they talked over that one who fancies that he has minted a bright, new, golden thought from his brain would be wise, before he utters it, to examine the records of those old talks, for as Emerson says, they "make great havoc of our originalities." Though these men discussed education, and the freedom of the will, and the division of labor, and the omnipotence of public opinion, and the equality of women, besides many other matters both great and small, the true goal of all their thinking and talking was to discover and to declare "what human excellence really is and what are the practices and the ways of life of a truly good man." (Paul Shorey, *Plato*, p. 175.) Their talks were a quest for a definition of virtue.

Of course, the thin veil has not for a moment hidden the lovely aspect of Athens, Dickinson's "bright and stately city of romance," nor the keen Greek faces of "Plato and the other companions of Socrates," nor confused the records with anything less immortal than the "Dialogues of Plato."

You remember at once how sometimes they talked of the way of life of a truly good man as of a single quality and called it virtue, in its essence one. At other times again they threw that ray virtue, that beam of white conduct, through the prism of logic, and lo! what had before seemed one was no longer one but four modes of action, passing by almost imperceptible modifications from transcendent wisdom to sanguine courage. Of one virtue they made four virtues, wisdom, justice, courage and temperance and they called them *cardinal* virtues, that is to say *hinges* on which life turns easily, smoothly, with least effort or jar.

But virtue to the Greek never meant

how he might save his own soul—the Greek was never greatly troubled about his soul's salvation—it rather meant how he might serve his city—state. His search was never how he might attain ideal heights of personal holiness, but rather how every day he might do the daily task in a way best to serve his city in her need. He was, as Bernard Bosanquet says, citizen soldier, citizen poet, citizen philosopher.

More than three and twenty centuries have passed since these men talked over with one another what it meant for a man to be wise, to be just, to be fearless, to be temperate, and the point of emphasis has changed, for good or for ill, in these later days from direct effort to raise one's life to the highest terms in order, first of all, that one might never fail his city at need—think of the Spartans at Thermopylæ, of the Athenians at Marathon—to an aspiration for individual righteousness without much thought of its relation to the whole mass of one's fellows.

The very meaning of the word virtue has lost its original application to public worth, being rather reserved for personal spotlessness. And yet, nevertheless, through the centuries philosophers and priests, all sorts of thinkers, all sorts of teachers, have constantly gone back to those old discussions—definitions they can hardly be called—as to a norm or measure against which to try their notions of virtue, and still the cardinal virtues are today as bright ideals as they were in the very days when old Socrates made those young Greeks answer what wisdom and justice and courage and temperance must be, eliminating by his shrewd, inescapable questions all that they certainly were not.

Even as late as July, 1901, one of our own great American teachers, searching for an attractive form in which to put to his own college boys a plea for social righteousness, took the old Greek discussions as a vesture

for his modern ideas, much as a sculptor has sometimes clothed his modern hero in a classic toga.

President Hyde brings home to our twentieth century life by intensely practical, even homely, illustrations what Greek virtue means applied to daily life, and I have myself found in the essay a searching criterion of my own notions of librarianship.

Will you listen a moment to President Hyde's general application, and then let us try to think of its special application to our own work, that is, how, and in what forms, wisdom and justice and courage and temperance apply to our craft and profession?

The first Greek virtue is wisdom. Wisdom, in the ethical sense, is a very different thing from book-learning. Wisdom is the sense of proportion—the power to see clearly one's ends and their relative worth; to subordinate lower ends to higher without sacrificing the lower altogether; and to select the appropriate means to one's ends, taking just so much of the means as will best serve the ends—no more and no less. (William DeWitt Hyde, *The college man and the college woman*, p. 47.)

Doesn't that sound as if it might be comforting in some ways? Wisdom is not some far-off, divine thing—wisdom is the power to see one's own true ends—not some other person's ends—one's *own* ends.

Therefore, the beginning of wisdom for a librarian is to see clearly the end or purpose that his own library is founded to accomplish—not the general purpose of the American Library Association, nor the particular purpose of the Library of Congress, nor another—but to see clearly the purpose of his own individual library; it is to select deliberately and to hold steadily the appropriate means to accomplish that purpose, ignoring or casting aside as impertinent and a wile of the tempter, any theory or any process that does not further, and further pretty directly, that purpose.

It almost seems as if wisdom for many of us might consist, chiefly,

in knowing what not to do, in "casting our deadly doing down."

Perhaps a concrete illustration or two may help toward clearness. It will be granted without argument, I think, that most public libraries are founded for one purpose, viz, through the instinct for self-preservation democratic communities form them to help to make happier and wiser, therefore better, citizens. Such public libraries are quite removed from the few traditional, dignified, revered institutions whose chief function, time out of mind, has been to collect and to preserve the rare and costly records of human thought and human activities. The chief end of these latter libraries is to collect and to preserve for the few and the future; the chief end of the former is to collect and disseminate today, to the many:

Books for men, women and children,

Artists, statesmen, and chemists and cooks,
We gather them but to lend them.

Said Our Lady of the Books.

Now if one were intent upon preserving interesting relics of human life, those few grains of wheat which fell from the cerements of Egyptian mummies would be beyond price; but if one needed to raise a crop of wheat to give bread to hungry children, a bushel of "No. 1, hard" from Minnesota would be worth a thousand times as much at one dollar.

On precisely the same principle if I were collecting records of human wisdom for preservation, the offer at any price of an Hippocrates folio, Frobenius' 1538, would, I suppose, fill my soul with joy and empty my pockets, but if I were trying to help men, women and children of my city to live stronger, merrier lives, rather than any Greek text, however rare, of the Father of Medicine, I would choose a dozen copies of Gulick's "The efficient life" at a dollar each. It is not a lower end that popular libraries aim at, but it is different, and, kept clearly in view, it

simplifies very quickly the answer to the question of how much public library money should go for book rarities.

All these questions are questions of the standard of value, and the philosopher says, "If different standards of value are to be compared with one another then a primordial value must be presupposed, by which the rank of other values can be fixed." (Harald Höfding. *Philosophical problems*, p. 156.) In other words, like fractions, they must be reduced to a common denominator before they can possibly be intelligently compared. In these cases, the comparison is with the definition of wisdom itself, a clear conception of the chosen end and a steady holding of the best means for attaining that end.

If anyone doubts that giving cheap books to boys and girls is, maybe, after all, a lower end, just let him support himself with this from the greatest of English Plato students: "When more of our youth are trained in the best literatures, and in the best parts of them, their minds may be expected to have a larger growth. They will have more interests, more thoughts, more material for conversation; they will have a higher standard and begin to think for themselves. The number of persons who will have the opportunity of receiving the highest education through the cheap press may increase tenfold. It is likely that in every thousand persons there is at least one who is far above the average in natural capacity, but the seed which is in him dies for want of cultivation. It has never had any stimulus to grow, or any field in which to blossom and produce fruit. Here is a great reservoir or treasure house of human intelligence out of which new waters may flow and cover the earth." (Benjamin Jowett, *Dialogues of Plato*, Vol. 1: *Phædrus*, 425-429.)

Certainly such an end as this is not a lower purpose, only different.

The same close rule, that of using direct means toward a clear end, ap-

plies not to purchases only, but also to processes. When 10,000 v. a year must be thrown away, ragged and soiled by use past all redemption, bibliographic niceties of cataloging, such as exact size in centimeters and itemized paging, are soon seen to be utterly futile. For it matters a good bit whether a boy has "The Pilgrim's progress," or Franklin's Autobiography, or "Robinson Crusoe" when he wants it, but it matters not one whit whether any one of them has vii-xiv (Roman) plus 150 (Arabic) pages, or vi-xv (Roman) plus 149 (Arabic) pages, it needs only that the famous story be there complete, in good round type and on fair white paper. Every copy will presently be food for the furnace to be replaced by others which may very likely have v-xvi (Roman) plus 148 (Arabic) pages.

It doesn't matter if the erudite and industrious cataloger records these things? It matters by just this: Accurate record of such details takes time, and time costs money; if the time, and consequently the money, goes to record unnecessary things of this sort about books of this kind, the chances are extremely good that the supply of money for books will presently run short and "Robinson Crusoe" will be "out" when the boy wants him.

It is only a question of standard again. Bibliographic detail of paging is necessarily recorded in collecting libraries as the only safe identification of editions, distinction between which is imperative in such libraries. Why should it be perpetuated in libraries whose purpose is such that if an edition is accurate and readable, which edition it is, is the very last thing that matters?

The same reasoning applies to the desire for authors' full names. In libraries which have hundreds of authors of similar names, even baptismal fullness is sometimes necessary to distinguish them. For libraries of the popular sort, would it not be enough to

add distinguishing detail when necessity occurs?

Wisdom would by no means lessen labor for the librarian. It would simply turn the labor to things more vital and therefore more interesting. Let us take just one example. The need in small libraries, especially, is for the most complete mastery of the resources at hand, which often at best are meager enough. There lies hidden away in great standard books, which nearly every library has, much special and particular information which might easily be overlooked in a hurried search for material. For instance, such things as the chapters on Roman law and the rise of Mohammedanism in Gibbon's Rome, a chapter on the founding of the Bank of England in Macaulay's England, a chapter on Common sense in Carpenter's Mental physiology, the beautiful version of the story of Iris in the "Autocrat of the breakfast table," and the still more beautiful telling of the story of Cupid and Psyche in Pater's "Marius the epicurean."

As violet almost imperceptibly melts into blue in the spectrum, so easy to make, so hard to define, is the step from wisdom to justice, the second Greek virtue. As wisdom requires the subordination of minor desires to greater, so justice, which might be defined as wisdom applied to the relations of human beings with one another, requires the subordination of the desires and interests of individuals to the interests of society, or the whole mass of individuals. H. G. Wells says that justice is an attempt to eliminate self's biased attitude.

The very essence of justice is the power to realize personality, to distinguish between persons and things. To be able to think of each person—however humble his service—not as a means to an end, not as a tool to be used and thought of solely as to how well or how ill it does what we desire to have done, but to think of him as having desires, thoughts, feelings of his own as

vital to him as mine are to me, to use him to accomplish his best and yet not to disregard and submerge his personality, but only to subordinate it to the desired end, this it is to be really just.

This application of the Greek ideal to modern work is difficult to make clear abstractly, but it is not difficult to understand, however hard to perform, when transposed into concrete library work.

Personal relations within library walls are of two types: The relations with those persons for whom we work, the individual patrons of the library; and the relations to those with whom we work, our chief and our fellow assistants or our own staffs.

In regard to our relations with individual borrowers, the power to realize clear to our heart of hearts as one looks up at each person as he appears, that this is an individuality as real as our own brother, that for the time being his desire, his need, his gratification are as sacred to us as if he were indeed our blood brother, is the one power which will make it possible to satisfy him really, and its possession is at the same time the one condition of being instantly recognized as a person one's self and not a thing which is to do something—an official. This attitude practically settles forever any question of courtesy on both sides. The habit of thinking of every individual soul as a real factor in the life of the community and the habit of remembering that his sufficiency or failure might mean, does mean, something of strength or of weakness to the land we love, makes the consciousness that it is important to serve just this need much easier to come by. He may be weak, he may be silly—"it is up to me" to give him a chance!—the choice he is ready for.

The other group of human relations, those between chief and staff, and members of the staff one with another, are subject to the same law.

The chief who habitually thinks and speaks in general terms only of his

staff, e g, "the loan desk assistants," "the cataloger," "the pages," is apt to think of these persons as things, as tools to accomplish his ends, and, so regarded, the only force that he thinks of being able to put in motion through them is the power of his own will. He regards and uses them as automata and disregards and worse than wastes all the possible coöperating power of their personal wills and enthusiasm. The human interest, desire, enthusiasm of a well-chosen staff is undoubtedly the most effective, most valuable part of a public library's equipment. The arousing and conserving of this power is perhaps the most important administrative function of the chief. If the librarian realizes this, he will be wary of processes that needlessly wear or dissipate this force, and will eliminate drudgeries whenever possible. Just one concrete example, rather extreme: I have heard it suggested, even advocated, that scribbling paper could be saved by having a boy cut the back of used envelopes carefully off, leaving a fair surface on the inner side of the superscription. (I knew a highly paid state organizer to be given this kind of stationery for some of her records.) Scribbling paper of sorts can certainly be had in this way, but 1000 sheets of note size print paper can be bought for 15 cents. It will take a boy a long while to cut the equivalent of those thousand sheets from envelopes, and you need not wonder if the boy feels like 15 cents after he has done it. A defender arose who said, "But it was partly intended as busy work 'lest Satan find some mischief still.'" If Satan can find interesting employment for hands in my library and I cannot, I know who would seem to be entitled to be chief in that library—and it isn't I! If I do not help and interest the boy whom I have seen, how shall I help or interest the boy whom I have not seen?

The converse relationship is equally worthy of consideration. If a member of the staff regards his chief as a thing

through whom he gets the most money for the least cost in labor and does not try to comprehend and to further as best he may, even if incompletely, the purposes of that chief for their institution, he also loses all personal power, he acts like a thing, he is a thing, and verily he has his reward.

Wisdom clears our eyes to see our purposes and ideals and selects the means we use; justice controls our use of persons in winning toward our ideals; courage, one step further, is wisdom controlling our own souls, giving us the hardihood to do and to dare the very possible pain encountered in accomplishing our purposes, for courage is wisdom teaching us what is and what is not to be feared.

The Athenian confirmation vow, as one might call it, began, "I will not disgrace my shield nor desert my fellow soldier." To return without his shield meant disfranchisement, run with it he could not, it was so heavy, so the Athenian soldier took the alternative that he feared last and fought to the death rather than to return no longer a freeman.

Courage today rarely points one

Up the large ways where death and glory meet,

she rather tests faith and patience over little things in our endeavor to make straight paths toward those ideals which

Hold their shining poise afar.

President Hyde's own illustration of the courage that cheerfully faces the pain of subduing the obstacles and limitations of time and space are peculiarly appropriate to librarians; the courage of space being order, the courage of time being promptness.

The poor housewife who cried out in despair that she should "die of things" was pretty well worsted in the struggle. Emerson's "Faculty for the destruction of rubbish" would have been her efficient weapon of offense and defense, and it may prove to be, in wisdom's

hands, Pan's own ploughshare in the thick of our fight.

The collecting libraries may, perhaps, lift holy hands of horror at the suggestion and exclaim, "There is no such word as 'rubbish!'" but it may, nevertheless, prove, in wisdom's way of looking each one at his own end, that much of what accumulates on our hands is, for our purposes, rubbish, and not worth reducing to order. The courage to select, the courage to endure the pain of making and keeping that order which permits peace and effective accomplishment is no mean courage.

There is another courage, too, in facing cheerfully, with no undue sensitiveness, criticism, both just and unjust, that follows on action. It is bound to follow and must be borne, either with courage or without, and it is better to face the music.

Just so the foresight, the expenditure of immediate energy in cutting off unessentials in order to have ready "what he wants when he wants it," which is the courage and conquest of time, is not to be smiled at. "Orderliness and punctuality are not usually regarded as forms of courage. But the essential element of all courage is in them—the power to face a disagreeable present in the interest of desirable permanent ends." (William DeWitt Hyde. *The college man and the college woman*, p. 66.)

President Hyde's last definition of temperance as the power to cut off excess of even legitimate pleasures for the sake of the large ends of life is too personal an interpretation for our purpose, and study of the original discussions does not help much, for the beautiful example of temperance himself fails of any satisfactory wording of his own virtue.

May we venture to define "temperance," in our work, as wisdom applied as a conserving check controlling the expenditure of power within such limits as shall best allow that power to accomplish the ends whereunto it is sent?

And would not this definition point most directly to a wise and conservative, a sane use of that most valuable asset of the library, the strength and health and physical well-being of the staff, beginning with the chief and ending with the least? And when the chief and the least of the staff meet in one person who is

The cook and the captain bold,
And the mate of the Nancy Brig

all in one, is not there all the greater need for temperance in the use of power? And further, do we not sometimes get confused as to where power resides? A newly hired clerk of some experience in a book shop rested on his experience and in the eyes of his mates shirked work. Being taunted by his fellows for laziness, he assumed a lofty demeanor and exclaimed, "I am not paid for what I do—I am paid for what I know!"

Do we librarians sometimes think we are paid for what we know, and is it not pretty sure that that idea is a mistaken value, and that what we really are paid for is what we are?

A very acute employer of teachers says that he has known many teachers to succeed and some to fail, but he has never known one to succeed by scholarship and training alone, nor seen one failure which could not be accounted for on other grounds than the lack of these things. (William DeWitt Hyde. The college man and the college woman, p. 248.) He sums up the qualities which make for success under one word, personality, which another defines as "the ultimate reality of our being persisting in each of us as the basis of all that he appears to himself, or to others." (E. M. Caillard. Progressive revelation, p. 99.)

It is true that the roots of personality lie away deep in the foundations of humanity, of nationality, of family, below the threshold of consciousness, beyond the power of will, but, never-

theless, much still may be done by cultivation. If we can once recognize that the union of body and soul, which is personality, is the power through which each of us works, and that knowing and willing are but means and modes of its working, we shall have recognized its worth, and that worth will inspire a search for ways to nourish and to nurture it.

The time is exhausted for which I asked your patience. In closing, may I sum up and paraphrase once again?

The librarian will ever approach perfection in proportion as he grasps the permanent ends of his work, and subordinates all means to those ends; the justice with which he weighs the interests of the persons for whom and with whom he works in the same scales as his own; the courage with which he greets all pains incidental to the prosecution of his ends; and the temperance with which he controls and expends the powers and resources at his command.

Some Books That High School Girls Like

- Aldrich—Marjorie Daw.
- Andrews—Perfect tribute.
- Austin—Betty Alden.
- Blackmore—Lorna Doone.
- Craik—John Halifax.
- Dickens—Christmas carol and Cricket on the hearth.
- Dickens—David Copperfield.
- Dickens—Old curiosity shop.
- Eliot—Silas Marner.
- Gates—Biography of a prairie girl.
- Jackson—Ramona.
- Jewett—Country doctor.
- Krasinska—Journal of Countess Krasinska.
- Longfellow—Evangeline.
- Meredith—Lucile.
- Scott—Ivanhoe.
- Scott—Kenilworth.
- Wiggin—Rebecca of Sunnybrook farm.

Mankato (Minn.) public library, 1908.

Looking the Gift Horse in the Mouth*

It is generally regarded as one of the fundamental principles of library economy to acquire as many books as possible. But if this principle were followed, hardly any library would have room enough for the increasing mass of books—so enormous is the literary production of our day.

No book should, without due consideration, be added to a library, as is too often done. It is, indeed, no easy matter to exercise the required critical power of selection, but that certainly is no reason why criticism should not be exercised; a difficulty should not be made to appear as if it were an impossibility. The faculty to determine the value of a book for a library is, in fact, a necessary requirement of a well-trained librarian. It is his function, on going over a lot of books sent for inspection from a bookseller, to make his selection with due regard for the importance of each single book. The same criticism should be exercised when a book is offered as a gift.

It does not seem right to accept every book that is offered as a gift without exercising precisely the same critical judgment as in the case of books offered for sale.

To care for a book that is given to a library involves as much expense as the book that is paid for; the very space which it will occupy on the shelves must be taken into consideration, then the expense of cataloging it and the cost of caretaking (cleaning, inventory, etc.).

A book offered for sale to a library by a bookseller is often enough refused with the statement that it is too expensive in comparison with its intrinsic value to the library. The criterion of

money value, therefore, comes into play when the librarian determines the value to the library of the possession of a certain book.

The same standard of valuation should be exercised in the case of books that are given. Only if the price of acquisition were the only financial condition could it be justifiable to accept any book that is offered as a gift. But this is not the case. Even when the book itself is given to a library, its cost is by no means zero; to keep it involves definite expense, both once for all and constantly, and only if this expense is smaller than the value of the book to the library can its acquisition be called rational.

Library Book-Stacks Without Daylight

Contribution to Science, June 18, 1909

To the editor of *Science*: I was greatly interested in the short abstract of Mr Bernard R. Green's address on "Library book-stacks without daylight," which appears in *Science* for April 9, 1909, p. 592.

I remember very well, probably five or six years ago, a conversation that I had with Mr Green in connection with the new library building of the College of physicians of Philadelphia, when I made the following suggestions, which I would like to put on record for the consideration of others:

It seemed to me that the ideal book-stack should be built with solid brick walls, without any openings of any kind, and that even in the roof there should be no skylight and no openings except for the chimneys and ventilation. Artificial light could be turned on and off at will and would provide amply and inexpensively for the light. Forced ventilation would keep the air pure. This method of construction would have the following advantages:

1) A wall of solid brick is much cheaper than one with openings for windows, which must be filled with ex-

*Translation of a portion of an article, "Zur Frage einer Reform des Bibliothekswesens," by O. von Sterneek, in *Mitteilungen des Oesterreichischen Vereins für Bibliothekswesen*. Akseil G. S. Josephson.

pensive wire glass, to which must be added the cost of iron shutters, with some automatic device for their closure.

2) It is a much better protection against fire.

3) It excludes all dust.

4) The book-stacks can be placed in the stack-room at any distance; farther apart or nearer together, as required, irrespective of their relation to daylight through the windows.

5) As Mr Green has pointed out, daylight is injurious to books.

6) The temperature of the room will be more equable, the internal heat being retained in the winter, and the external heat being excluded in the summer.

I hope, if this commends itself to architects and librarians, that some day the board of directors of a library may act upon it. The only drawback that occurs to me is that architecturally it would not be attractive in appearance, but as the book-stack is usually in the rear of the building and more or less hidden from view, I think this would not be a very serious objection.

Philadelphia.

W. W. KEEN.

An Afterthought

A librarian—yes, she was a timid librarian when she took to the woods—Bretton Woods, with about 600 others of her kind—at least she supposed they were her kind—for she had been first of all 10 months in a university library and then eight months in a large public library. After a few brief lectures in a summer school of library science she found herself in charge of a small public library in a growing town. For eight years she had watched her little library growing and expanding—as only the E. C. can expand. She had come to have two assistants; she had trained several other would-be-assistants for other libraries. Yet knowing that she was not a Pratt or an Albany graduate, or a good Wisconsin product, she felt very timid, and did not dare lift up her

voice to speak in meeting, but like the Irishman's parrot she was kept busy with her thoughts.

Among the sessions she attended at the A. L. A. conference was the one on "Library training." Here she heard that some of the powerful ones thought that a graduate school was needed; that not one year or two years' training was sufficient, but that one should be soaked in theory for three solid years before taking a position, and she returned to her work just a wee bit disheartened.

Home again and at her desk on Saturday night, taking in books and giving them out at the rate of 95 v. in 35 minutes—trying to satisfy everyone—even four at a time all wanting to take "Holy Orders!" The fact that she was getting more practice than theory didn't seem to matter so much.

Glancing up from her work she saw a librarian enter the door—a charming lady—on her way home from the post-conference, who had stopped over a train to visit this library. Leaving the charging desk to the care of an assistant the timid librarian hastened to welcome the visitor. What would she like most to see, the catalog, the shelf list, the music section?

No, the visitor explained, she was an instructor in one of the training schools, she thought the charging system, she would like to watch it in operation, for she had taught the Browne charging system in theory to many classes. Might she be allowed to help with the file—count out the tickets? That would be delightful!

Just exactly how the charming visitor made that file, the timid librarian doesn't know; but the next week, when they tried to discharge books from it, they were reminded of their visitor.

After all, shouldn't a graduate school be to get to work?

We may read a book on "How to swim" until we know it word for word, but until we take the plunge, how can we learn to breast the stream?

M. S. S.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$4 a year
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Public Libraries does not appear in August and September and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

A change of price—Beginning with the January, 1910, issue of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the price will be advanced to two dollars. The inquiry in the recent number as to which was more desirable, a return to the original size or an advance in price, brought a unanimous vote for the latter.

The quality of the contributions, the extent of the field covered, the service rendered and the labor required, all justify the advance in price, while the rise in cost of production demands it.

Increased effort will be made to advance the standard of excellence in every way and to render such service as will continue PUBLIC LIBRARIES in the lead in library development.

A. L. A. headquarters in Chicago—The central machinery of headquarters has been duly installed in commodious space on the fifth floor of the Chicago public library building. Mr Hadley assumed the duties of his new office September 1, and the outlook is most promising—already the calendar is full of things waiting to be done. The current income is not sufficient, however, to do very much at present, but a good be-

ginning will be made this year toward what it is firmly believed will become a strong power for good in library extension in America.

Library workers of every degree are urged to get in touch with headquarters either as inquirers for, or contributors to, library information, assured of prompt and cordial response to every communication.

Library spirit—Many library workers in the ranks took advantage of the meeting at Bretton Woods to visit the branch libraries of Boston, New York, Brooklyn, Newark, Buffalo and Cleveland, and almost without exception all speak in the highest terms of the courtesy and good-will shown them by the librarians and library staffs of the libraries visited. As various visitors were looking for various things, the summing up of the compliments on each department and each person would probably bring the verdict that the institutions visited were above reproach.

The Chicago librarians, some of whom visited these branches for the first time, were most enthusiastic over the courtesy received, and one hears constantly from others, also, of the extreme kindness shown by Mr Wadlin, Miss Doyle, Mr Hill, Mr Johnston, Mrs Elmendorf and Miss Eastman in a way that would indicate that new discoveries in library spirit had been made by the uninitiated, though to those who have had the pleasure of making these visits, year after year, it is a familiar chapter out of their own pleasant experience. Where here and there something less agreeable prevailed in the form of welcome, it was accompanied by extenuating circumstances, which prevented any feeling of embarrass-

ment remaining after the incident was closed.

It may be said that the greatest benefits derived from the peregrinations of the library organizations is the opportunity to visit libraries, see in actual practice the methods and plans of the work, and to meet those whose efforts bring about the results, of which one reads in the library periodicals.

A deplorable move—A most deplorable action was taken by the executive board of the N. E. A. at Denver, by which the library department of that association was abolished. It came about through the report of a committee appointed several years ago to consider the consolidation of the departments of the association, which have grown to be numerous in the last few years.

No notice was given beforehand that this report was to be made, or that the action had been taken by the executive board, until after everything was settled. It is said by one who was present, that there was little if any discussion relative to the matter.

The president of a famous university said in his judgment, in view of the widespread interest in library work at this time, that the work of the library department was finished. A prominent officer of the association agreed with him, and the matter was passed. A protest from some of the librarians present was entered at a later session of the board, but without effect. It is to be sincerely hoped that the matter may be set so plainly before the authorities of the N. E. A. that further action looking to the continuance of the department will be taken.

The work of the library section has been effective, and the results of a con-

tinued effort to create an interest in its work among the teachers are most gratifying to those who have seen the department develop from the small beginnings of 1896. It was unfortunate that a number of untoward circumstances attended the meeting of the library section at Denver, though this had nothing to do with the action of the committee, which had finished its work before the meeting was called.

President Harvey of the N. E. A. said in his opening address that the idea had been expressed by librarians that the library movement seemed to be the most significant educational development of the century, but that for himself he was inclined to doubt this statement. Nor did he attach to the library movement the importance which its promoters did. With this attitude on the part of the ruling spirit of the Denver meeting, it was unfortunate that there was not present a greater number of those who have stood by the work for years, and to whose efforts much of its success is due.

A protest from those interested should be sent to President Joyner of the N. E. A. at once.

A change in work—With the change of A. L. A. headquarters from Boston to Chicago, came the termination of Miss Browne's service as secretary of the A. L. A. Publishing Board, after many years of hard, conscientious labor, largely remunerated by her own satisfaction in the work performed. As assistant to Mr Lane first, she assumed the whole responsibility of the secretaryship when he resigned, and for several years the output of the Publishing Board passed constructively, critically and editorially through her hands.

To one unacquainted with the immense amount of labor required in such a position, the office may seem one of light duties, pleasant surroundings and satisfactory development, but quite the contrary is true, and the part of secretary for a dozen years to the A. L. A. Publishing Board means that Miss Browne has earned the deepest gratitude of all concerned, and deserves to carry with her in her retirement from office, the highest appreciation of her long and arduous service for A. L. A. literature.

It is greatly desirable that the long experience of Miss Browne, her intimate knowledge of the historical development of the A. L. A., and her familiarity with the library situation in general, may still be available in a helpful way in the library field.

The new librarian of Chicago—Having learned from a reliable source that the announcement of the new librarian for Chicago would be given to the public, October 1, we have held up PUBLIC LIBRARIES for the arrival of the news item. (See page 295.) Mr Legler will receive the most cordial welcome from the library workers in Chicago and the professional support to which his noted achievements in the past entitle him.

With the addition of strong library forces which have come to Chicago and to Illinois in the past year, there is every reason for the highest expectation of advancement in library work. Mr Lichtenstein at the Northwestern university, Mr Windsor at University of Illinois, Mr Carleton at Newberry library, Mr Hadley at A. L. A. headquarters and Mr Legler at Chicago public library form a pretty good list for one year.

Coöperation—The declaration set forth again by the N. E. A. at Denver has much that might well become a part of the declared principles of the A. L. A. A significant point is the indorsement of the use of school buildings and all school equipment for community interests and social betterment. Here is recognition of one of the long-time efforts of the public library and to which public school authorities have been slow to give their approval. With larger means at hand, and with more hours of disuse, the school buildings ought to be used to lighten the burden on the public library buildings, though until this is done, the latter should continue in the splendid educational work that is carried on in so many of the auditoriums in library buildings. It may not be exactly library work, but it is educational.

If the school teachers, principals and superintendents strongly advocate locally, the principles which they have adopted in their national meeting, much greater results will be obtained than is the case under present conditions, where much waste of time and equipment prevails.

Sometime the school authorities will realize what poor business administration it is, to invest so much means in school buildings and equipment for such short periods of active work, and then present conditions in many places will be bettered. Then the buildings will be used as educational centers for 15 or 16 hours instead of as it is at present, generally seven hours. No good business man would be content with such an income from such an investment of his own means. Why not be as zealous in the work for the state, if one consents to be a trustee for the people's rights?

New Librarian for Chicago Public Library.

When it became known that a librarian for the Chicago public library was to be chosen, deep interest was manifested by librarians all over the country. Chicago is the second city in size on the continent, is noted for the devotion of its people to the idea of its greatness in every direction and for the loyal response that is made to every call to its civic spirit. The position of chief librarian of its public library was one that appealed to the imagination of every librarian whose knowledge of conditions was wide enough to realize the possibilities of the situation. A cloud that shadowed professional ambition, however, was the fact that the civil service law of Illinois included the position in its power. Much uninformed discussion of the situation did not help to reveal to some, the opportunity afforded to a great man, and much prophecy of danger was uttered by such persons. The civil service commission of Chicago, however, rose to the occasion and named as arbiters of the appointment, men of more than national reputation whose choice has just been announced. On October 1, Dr Herbert Putnam, Dr F. P. Hill and Mr C. W. Andrews designated, according to civil service rule, Henry E. Legler of Wisconsin as first choice for the position of librarian of the Chicago public library.

The president of the Civil Service commission is reported to have said that 19 persons filed applications, 12 of whom were clearly available for appointment and seven were persons with a national reputation in library work.

Mr Legler is too well known to all librarians in the United States and to many abroad, to need more than a passing word of introduction. Coming actively into library work a little more than five years ago, he has risen steadily in the extent of responsibility placed upon him by the library profession, generally, and in the esteem and confidence of those with whom he has dealt. For

years before actually taking up library work, he was an interested student of the principles and purposes of library extension. He has justified every expectation in every position he has held and comes to the Chicago public library with the good will of his fellow craftsmen.

Mr Legler has long been a practical man of affairs. He was for 14 years executive officer of Milwaukee public school system, a position of varied duties and responsibilities. His experience gained there will be invaluable in his future work in Chicago. He served a term as member of the Wisconsin legislature. A newspaper man of wide experience, ranging from the case, as a boy, up to the editorial chair for several years, he knows the public. He has considerable literary production to his credit, also, among which may be named the following:

Books for the people, 1908; James Gates Percival, 1901; Leading events of Wisconsin history, 1901; Man with the Iron Hand, 1896; A Moses of the Mormons; Poe's Raven: Its origin and genesis (The Philosopher Press); Chevalier Henry de Tonty.

Contributions to the proceedings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Early Wisconsin imprints, 1904; Narratives of early Wisconsin travelers prior to 1800, 1906; Origin and meaning of Wisconsin places, names, 1903; A Wisconsin group of German poets, with a bibliography, 1904; a contribution to Wisconsin Academy of sciences, arts and letters.

Frequent contributions to *American Book-Lore and Literary Collector*.

Mr Legler has been secretary of the Wisconsin library commission, curator of the Wisconsin historical society, councilor of the Bibliographical society of America. He is a member of the A. L. A. and one of its executive officers; a members of the American historical society, the Parkman club, the American library institute, and other American and European learned societies.

With the support of the Board of Directors Mr Legler is sure to make a notable success in his new career in Chicago.

Concerning Frederick M. Crunden

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Public library of St Louis, held June 29, 1909, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

The directors of the Public library of St Louis are constrained to recognize that their secretary and librarian, Frederick M. Crunden, cannot again resume the duties of his office, and so with the deepest regret and greatest reluctance, they accept his resignation of the post.

Mr Crunden was appointed to his position on Jan. 17, 1877, and from that day until he was stricken with the disease which has rendered him unable to continue his functions, he has devoted every energy of mind and body to the welfare of the institution under his charge. He was always its efficient administrator and its zealous representative. To his industry, intelligence and self-sacrifice, more than to any other individual agency, are due its growth and development and the constant increase of its utility. He found it a small collection of books, insufficiently housed and its use subject to a charge which excluded the great majority from its benefits. He believed it should be the complement of our public educational system, continuing the opportunities of instruction for the people throughout life. To the realization of this he devoted his life, and not in vain. Broken by his labors, those labors have yet been crowned with abundant success. The library upon a plan and scale answering to his most sanguine hopes is now assured of realization, and he was given to see this before the darkness gathered about him. Not in anything done for himself, not in any shaft which friendly hands may rear to perpetuate his memory, but in what he wrought for others will his monument be found.

Whatever the future of the Public library of St. Louis may be, its past is largely his work.

John Thomson, M. A.

John Thomson, librarian of the Philadelphia free library, received the degree of Master of Arts from University of Pennsylvania at the June commencement.

The *Old Penn Weekly Review* contains a review of Mr Thomson's career, from which the following extracts are taken:

John Thomson was born in Norfolk, England, and educated at St Paul's school, London. He came to the United States in 1881 and became a naturalized citizen and a resident of Philadelphia. For eight years after his arrival he acted as librarian to the late Clarence H. Clark, publishing in 1888 a detailed descriptive catalog in two large volumes of Mr Clark's large and valuable library. After this Mr Thomson became librarian for Jay Gould at Irvington and while acting in this capacity he prepared a descriptive catalog of Mr Gould's library of which only one volume was published, in 1890.

In April, 1893, the Free library of Philadelphia was established under the will of George S. Pepper and Mr Thomson was appointed the first librarian. The library was opened in two small rooms in city hall by Mr Thomson and one assistant. Its development is a well-known story. It now consists of a main library on Chestnut street and 19 branches, together with 100 traveling libraries and deposit stations. In January, 1903, Mr Thomson was instrumental in obtaining from Mr Carnegie the sum of \$1,500,000 for the erection of 30 branch library buildings, 10 of which have since been erected and opened to the citizens of Philadelphia.

Mr Thomson has edited a series of eight bibliographical bulletins, several of which he has compiled himself, including:

Descriptive catalog of the writings of Sir Walter Scott, 1898.

Descriptive catalog of the series of works known as the Library of old authors, 1899.

Descriptive account of the Lower Dublin academy and of the Thomas Holme branch of Free library of Philadelphia, 1907.

Mr Thomson also published in 1905 under the title of "Hither and thither" a volume of essays contributed to magazines and newspapers. He has also taken an active part in the free lectures which have done so much to spread the knowledge of the Free library's collections among the citizens of Philadelphia, having delivered upward of 225 lectures in the past 18 years.

In 1899 Mr Thomson became a member of the Pennsylvania home teaching society and free circulating library for the blind and has been vice-president since 1906. In 1899 he was appointed by Governor Pennypacker a member of the board of the Pennsylvania free library commission of which he is treasurer, and was reappointed for five years by Governor Stuart in January, 1909. He has been a member of the American library association since 1893 and served on the council from 1901 to 1906. In 1893 he became a member of the Pennsylvania library club and has twice acted as president, in 1895 and 1907.

He has been a member of the Art club since 1898 and since March, 1907, has acted as chairman of its library committee, as well as serving as secretary of the Nameless club. In 1893 he was active in establishing the Philobiblon club, being elected the first curator, a position he still holds.

Mr Thomson has been a member of the Dickens fellowship since its foundation and in 1908 served as president. In the same year he was appointed by Mayor Reyburn a member of a commission to investigate the date of the founding of the city of Philadelphia. Mr Thomson is a member of the council of the University extension society and an original member of the Franklin Inn club; a member of the Historical society of Pennsylvania, of the Academy of natural sciences, and of the Keystone state library association. He has also been a steward for the distribution of charities of the Society of the sons of St George for four years. In addition to these various activities, he has served for three years as a delegate to the Diocesan convention of the Episcopal church, acting as a member of the commission on church work among the blind of the P. E. church for 1906 to date, and as treasurer since 1908. He has also been accounting warden of the Church of the Annunciation since May, 1900.

More Guides to Reference Books

A great deal of valuable reference material can be obtained from the innumerable publications of our learned societies, that are issued from time to time. In some of these can be found articles and special memoirs on topics of scientific interest by writers well known for their special study of the subject dealt with; but those who wish to keep track of, or to investigate the treatment of, any particular subject that, perhaps, might have appeared in any one

of these papers will find them of little use, as few indexes to these are provided.

I might also mention that articles of value appearing in some of our trade and professional journals today are seldom referred to, as no means of reference to them can be found. Similarly, I have found many books, most of which have been published in the last decade, and which contain information respecting applications of science to the arts, manufactures and industrial pursuits, that remain hidden away in some out-of-the-way corner of the library simply because no index to these books has been compiled that would help those who are in search of original material.

It must be understood that the indexes to which I refer in this article are those printed in book form, and containing a subject and title index, with cross-references, for these are absolutely essential in such an index, as they help making accessible all the material on a particular subject.

Perhaps the reason why a surprisingly small amount of sound work is accomplished by our teachers in school and college today in their research for original material, is because of the limited number of indexes, guides and reference books that are now available. Yet no branch of research work at the present day offers greater opportunity, while none is more urgently in need of original workers, than that which lies open to the teacher.

To be sure, the work of compiling an index is a time-consuming and dubious task, yet it is to be hoped that before long some ambitious workers, realizing the value of this vast amount of literature that today lies untouched upon the dusty shelves, will promptly set to work and compile reference books that will be written in a non-technical manner, and which will contain everything that has been written on any special subject. In this way, persons wishing to study a subject can readily get at

the needed books for their stage of development.

And, in addition to books of this nature, there should be more guides that will tell of sources from which useful information can be obtained, including mention of special libraries and museums to which access may be obtained. Many of the interesting and valuable objects in some of our museums too often remain unstudied for want of handy description of them; indeed, many remain untouched, because there is no record of their existence. Who will in some measure supply this deficiency?

HENRY JACOBS.

New York City, June 9, 1909.

Newspapers in Libraries?

A few librarians have decided that a newspaper room where files of current daily newspapers can be read by the public is unnecessary and inadvisable for a public library. I feel very strongly like taking issue with the advocates of such a plan, claiming that the daily papers are a legitimate addition to the stock of a well-rounded library.

It is a fact that the American people are a newspaper reading race. It is also a fact that a large majority of the people read only one paper, and that a local one. Is it not fair to urge that opportunity to consult the better metropolitan journals, and those of a different political faith, will tend to counteract the narrowness which results from seeing one paper only? I believe that a broader outlook on life and affairs can be aided by giving an opportunity to consult papers of different localities and different ideals. Of course, care should be taken to exclude mere sensational journals, and those which cater to bad morals, or low taste, but the fact remains that the average paper buyer of limited purse usually buys the cheaper and more sensational journals. Why not give him an opportunity to improve his taste and widen his outlook by let-

ting him see the best examples of American journalism?

There are many forms of literature which are inferior to the respectable daily paper. The public demands the opportunity to consult these papers in a free public library, which is supported by taxation. Is there any reason why the vagaries and whims of those who would endeavor to prove their descent from English nobles or Mayflower ancestry should be any more regarded than those who desire to keep posted on the events of the day from the standpoint of observers who record their impressions in the columns of the daily papers?

As far as literature is concerned, newspaper English, in spite of the implied slur in the expression, is better, whether in the editorial or reportorial columns, than the phraseology of the average current book. There are, of course, papers which any self-respecting library board would keep out of the library, especially those which pandering to the desire for sensationalism.

But there are many monthly and weekly magazines which few libraries refuse to take which are as sensational and as worthless as many of the daily prints of even the yellowest tinge. I can see no reason why the *Cosmopolitan* and *Munsey* should be subscribed for, while the *New York Times* and *Boston Transcript* are not provided for our readers.

While we should be duly solicitous for the morals and culture of our patrons, yet I hardly think any American librarian would go to the extent of blackening out sporting news from the papers, as has been done in some of the English libraries. Such obliteration of news would seem undoubtedly to excite the appetite for the forbidden columns which have thus been blotted out.

Finally, I would place myself squarely on the side of those who would retain the daily papers as a very important feature of the public libraries. I

would have in the newspaper room all the local papers; two or three of the leading papers from the larger metropolitan centers; one from each of the leading cities of my own state; one, at least, from each distant section of the country, as the Northwest, the Pacific coast, the Southern states, the North Central states, and the Mississippi valley; one Canadian paper; at least one good English journal; and one or more foreign papers, according to the character of the population of the city. The number of the papers would depend upon the resources of the library. At present we subscribe to about 30 newspapers, a few of the suburban ones being weekly. I do not know what the feeling of other librarians is on this subject, but it seems to me a very important subject for discussion.

GEO. H. TRIPP.

Free public library, New Bedford, Mass.

Repairing Books with Flexible Glue*

Take the book from the cover and pull the old super, or muslin, from the back of the book, raise the lining on the back and the front board to take out the old super. You will find that most of the glue will come off with the super; if not, scrape with a knife. Beat the book on the back with a bone folder that no leaves extend at the top, bottom or front. In case the book is uncut it will have to be beaten at the front to get the back even for gluing, as all the signatures must be as even as possible, or the book will be rough when finished.

Cut the muslin in strips two or three inches wide, or according to the thickness of the book, then cut lengths a half inch shorter than the book, allowing the muslin to extend over the boards the same as the old super.

Use a double boiler glue pot, cut enough glue to give a half pot when dissolved. If too thick when hot, add

a little hot water to thin it down. Always use hot glue in order to get the best results.

Gluing

Take the book cover, turn back the lining, and spread the glue in the back, and on the boards in the same place where the old super was, lay the strip of muslin in place, fit the lining back in the old position, beat the book even, hold firmly in hand and glue the back. Place the front cover on even with the edge of the lining, fold over the other cover in its proper place and press the book back into the cover, so that the back will not be hollow. Crease the joints with a folder and place under a weight overnight. Open up in the morning and the book will be easy to open and flexible if done according to directions.

One assistant in this library prepares and glues, finishing the work, between 50 and 60 volumes per day. If they are opened up and ready to glue she can glue as many as 125 in a day. She usually prepares the books in the morning and glues them in the afternoon.

Prof. W. P. Bowen of the Michigan State normal college presents in *Hygiene and Physical Education* for June a most helpful exposition of what constitutes fatigue and what counterfeits it. Some people are evidently simply born tired. "There is much misinformation as to what fatigue is. It is not simply a 'feeling of uneasiness' and discomfort. There is a motor as well as a sensory side, which is even more important." Some of the counterfeits of fatigue are drowsiness, weakness and discomfort from breathing bad air; aversion to work, termed *ennui* by the French, *mudigkeit* by the Germans; lack of suitable food, loss of sleep, faulty nutrition, indigestion, adenoids and the early stages of many diseases. One of the commonest forms of fatigue in children arises from the suppression of natural activities by the maintenance of one position for long periods.

*Extract from: report of Public library of Cincinnati.

The Questionnaires

One of the kindest of those who answered the questions on which many of the A. L. A. papers were based dashed off the following:

The balmy days of spring have come,
The happiest of the year;
When just before the A. L. A.
The Questionnaires appear.

We note their form and size
With glee,
Their "i's" and "z's"
And "a," "b," "c's."

We then take down our
Year's report,
And set in for a
Half day's sport.

We send out for our
Monthly sheet
Of sta-tis-tics
So plain and neat.

We do all this
With right good-will
And scarce can wait
The time until

The A. L. A., when we shall hear
Those papers all so fine,
When many a library problem
Shall be settled for all time.

We do not mind the work we've done,
Nor all the time we've given,
'Tis glory for some other man!
But crowns for us in heaven!

The great library movement in America began and still has its freest courses in the eastern states; but it does not stop there. The light of every new movement in the east projects itself across the prairies and is reflected back upon us from the mountain peaks beyond. And may I with truth declare that any inflow of thought from the east must correspondingly lift all the streams of thought in the west. All of which is but a statement of the truth that we are our brother's keepers and that in turn we are "kept" by our brother. And this irresistibly leads to the conclusion that we can't afford to withhold from others any good thing which we ourselves would enjoy.—Johnson Brigham.

Reinforced Binding

For the past three years the Jacksonville public library has purchased one or more copies of nearly all books that have been put in special library binding by the publishers, and I have been much interested in watching the career of these books. A few days ago my attention was called to a copy of "The tides of Barnegat," that has circulated 142 times without a single visit to the repair room. Several other books in this binding have circulated over 100 times without repair.

If other librarians have had an equally successful experience with special library bindings, it certainly seems plain that we ought to encourage publishers all we can to do more of this work. The original cost is only 10 cents more than in regular publisher's cloth, but the result is equal to a 50-cent reinforced binding.

GEO. B. UTLEY, Librarian.
Jacksonville, Fla.

The other side

Some time ago I noticed in PUBLIC LIBRARIES an article relative to the books issued in special library bindings by certain of the publishers. The writer stated that the publishers could not continue the work unless they received more general support from the librarians.

It occurred to me to wonder if other librarians have had the same difficulty which I have experienced; namely, that as the special editions are evidently not published simultaneously with the trade editions, we have the annoyance of seeing the latter in the stores several weeks in advance of receiving our own. In that case it is not surprising that we do not order again. Is this general, or is the trouble possibly local and due to the carelessness of our jobber?

ANTOINETTE M. HUMPHREYS, Lib.
A. K. Smiley public library, Redlands, Cal.

Library Commission Law of Illinois

The following bill was signed by Governor Deneen June 14, 1909, and is now the law relating to library extension in Illinois. It will be seen that it is materially changed from the first draft (see P. L., p. 181) and for the better. Appropriation for carrying on the work was provided for in another bill:

Section 1. Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois represented in general assembly: That "An act to revise the law in relation to the State library," approved Feb. 25, 1874, in force July 1, 1874, be amended by adding the following sections to be known as sections 10, 11 and 12.

Sec. 10. That the commissioners of the State library be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to appoint two persons, who, together with the State librarian, shall constitute a board to be known as the "Illinois library extension commission," of which the State librarian shall be ex-officio chairman.

The length of the term of office of the appointive members of such commission shall be for two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified, the first term beginning on the first day of July, 1909; but of the two appointed in the first instance one shall be appointed for one year, and one for two years, and thereafter one member shall be appointed each year. No member of such commission shall be compensated for his services, but the traveling expenses of members in attending meetings of the commission or establishing libraries, and other incidental and necessary expenses connected with the work of the commission shall be paid.

Sec. 11. The Library extension commission shall give advice and information to the librarian or trustees of any existing public library, or to any person or community interested in starting a new library, concerning the organization, maintenance or administration of said

library, and it shall appoint a library organizer, one of whose duties shall be to furnish such advice and information. Such library organizer shall keep informed of the condition, scope and methods of work of the various public libraries of the state, visiting the same as occasion may require, shall assist as far as practicable in promoting and starting new libraries, and at the end of each fiscal year shall make a report of the general library conditions in the state to the Library extension commission.

Sec. 12. The commission shall operate traveling libraries specially given or bought for such purpose, and loan such libraries to any library in the state, or to any community or organization not yet having an established library, under such conditions and regulations as it shall prescribe. And said commission shall, from time to time, so send out and distribute such books throughout the state, and at suitable intervals change such distributions, in such a manner as to secure to the greatest practicable degree the use and enjoyment of such books to the people of the entire state. The commission may also conduct a clearing house for periodicals for free gift to local libraries, and perform such other public service as may seem to it for the best interests of the state. Said Library extension commission shall receive the advice and counsel of the State library commission, and shall be under its control.

On September 29, Mrs George R. Bacon of Decatur and J. H. Freeman of Aurora were appointed to the Library extension board. Mrs Bacon has long been active in forwarding the movement for state supervision and did much to secure the present law. Mr Freeman is a director of the Aurora public library and has been identified with educational work for many years.

The appropriation for the work is \$1500 a year. This is hardly enough to make a start, but the work will receive larger appropriations later.

Illinois Library Association

Annual meeting

The Illinois library association will hold its annual meeting at East St. Louis, October 12-14. A full attendance of all library workers and directors is urged.

Addresses are expected from Dr Bostwick, H. E. Legler, Chalmers Hadley, Supt. F. G. Blair and others. Tax levy and collection will be presented by H. G. Wilson of the Chicago public library board, a well-known tax expert. A round table in library methods will be held, as well as one for reference and college librarians.

The Royal hotel has offered rates of \$2.00 to \$3.00 a day, and rooms should be secured in advance. The Centennial celebration at St. Louis will afford an opportunity for low railroad rates.

The first sessions will be held on Tuesday, October 12, and the reception by the Women's clubs will be held on Tuesday evening. Librarians are urged to be present for this event.

The program, shortly to be issued, is full of interest and helpfulness and no Illinois library worker can afford not to attend meeting.

MARY EILEEN AHERN, Pres.

Open Shelves

Our board of trustees think it may be of interest to librarians in the smaller towns to know the result of our first year's experience in allowing the public free access to the shelves in the stacks.

Not only was there no loss of books, but the public for the most part derived satisfaction from personal examination and selection of books from the shelves.

The displacement of volumes has not been a serious difficulty; the time required to keep the books in order has not equaled that formerly spent in finding the books for the public.

The circulation has increased and the percentage of fiction somewhat lessened.

WESTBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Westboro, Mass.

A. L. A. Committee on Binding

The A. L. A. committee on binding receives frequent complaints that certain books are exceedingly unsatisfactory in the original publishers' binding. As long as present methods of trade binding are followed such cases will be frequent, but librarians can greatly aid the committee in its efforts to get better bindings from the publishers, if they will, in every case where books are unsatisfactory, make a strong protest direct to the publisher. The publishers are bound to take notice of such protests, and if they are frequent, some good must result.

The committee has received from Messrs Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton samples of children's books bound in a special library binding. The circular accompanying the sample copies gives the following specifications for binding:

1) The best pigskin is used for the backs, and buckram for the sides; or the backs can be covered in pluviusin, to which the attention of librarians is directed, as being even more durable than leather. Morocco can be used for the backs, if desired, at a slightly increased cost.

2) In sewing the sheets the sections are linked together by numerous stitches, which are quite independent of each other, so that if through rough handling a stitch were to break the others would not be affected. This sewing is a great improvement on the old style.

3) The possibility of any strain of the cover on the leaves is removed by a patent system of linen joints, also by a French joint on the cover, giving freedom to the hinge.

4) The first and last sections, being used more than the rest, are oversewn and lined in the center with jaconet.

5) Tight or loose backs are adopted, according to the quality of the paper.

The books seem to be excellently bound for public library work, and it is

to be regretted that among the titles obtainable there are not a larger number used in this country. Librarians who are interested can obtain a list of titles and prices by sending direct either to Henry Frowde or Hodder & Stoughton.
A. L. BAILEY, Chm.

Interesting Things in Print

A monthly bulletin containing a list of the volumes added during the month will be issued by the James V. Brown library of Williamsport, Pa. The list is classified with call numbers.

The Cardiff public library has issued a catalog of historical works and information relating to Wales. A little catalog of guide books in the lending libraries covering 38 pages contains but three entries for material on North America.

The Bookbuying committee of the A. L. A. has prepared, after considerable labor and thought, a list of novels for adults which are purchased in largest numbers by American libraries. It is hoped to make it a helpful buying list for all libraries.

Book selection by James Douglas Stewart of the Islington public libraries, England, and Olive E. Clarke of the same library, is the best thing of the kind that has been published lately. A higher degree of excellence has been reached than is found in the A. L. A. tract on the same subject.

Part 5 of "Illinois libraries" by Katharine L. Sharp, M. L. S., has been issued. It contains the conclusion of Miss Sharp's valuable report, and deals with buildings, sources, publications and a general index to the five parts. The collection of floor plans and exterior views makes a good showing in material equipment for Illinois libraries. The work represented by the five parts has been prodigious, and it is to be hoped that appreciation of the right sort will follow. No other state has so extensive a work dealing with its libraries,

though many of them have state aid, which in this case is wanting. The price is uniform with the parts previously issued, \$1.

The Guide to librarianship of James Duff Brown, while a commendable piece of work, is somewhat faulty in what it presents in view of the title selected. Many inaccurate statements regarding American libraries have crept in. No great wrong, truly, but for a "Guide" hardly commendable. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A recent bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Education reports 2298 public school and society libraries of not less than 5000 v., containing 55,350,163 bound volumes; 11,259,569 pamphlets were reported; 3342 libraries contain 1000 to less than 5000 v., and 2700 libraries have less than 1000 v. A circulation of 17,345,034 v. for children by 645 libraries is reported.

The State Board of Education of South Carolina has prepared a list of 900 books from which the public schools of the state may select and make up their libraries.

The legislature of the state appropriates \$5000 annually for public school libraries. More than 1200 libraries have been established, containing 200,000 books. These have been established in less than five years. For every \$10 paid by the state, \$20 is contributed locally for the school libraries.

Le Roy Jeffers of the New York public library has compiled a list of titles of adult books, which his experience warrants him in suggesting to be put in special library binding. Publisher and price of the books are given. A curious thing is the lower price of many of the volumes, which in most cases is higher for American editions than for the English. The list is valuable for several reasons, not the least of which is bringing a source of comparison and estimate to those distant from the book markets. The list was printed privately by Mr. Jeffers.

The American Library Association

Bretton Woods meeting, June 26-July 5

Superlatives to express the beauty and comfort of the surroundings of the A. L. A. meetings of 1909 were at a premium during the time spent at the magnificent Mt Washington hotel, and as distance lends its enchantment to the impression, adequate expression is no easier. Surely nothing more could have been desired, though, to be sure, one could have enjoyed a little less of expense, but everyone agreed it was worth the price.

The members of the Council expected to spend a quiet Sunday before the gathering of the great body of members on Monday. Those who started from Boston on Saturday morning changed their opinion about any such situation. The trains were crowded from the time of starting, early in the morning, until Bretton Woods was reached in the evening, and particularly so the latter half of the journey. A number from the Middle West who, in times past, had heard their eastern brethren complain of the comforts furnished by the local transportation companies, wondered as to standards of comparison as they journeyed to Bretton Woods. Surely, in the whole country nobody could find worse accommodations than the Boston-Maine train which took the librarians to Bretton Woods, and which seems to be the provision that is ordinarily made for the traveling public. A large number were standing in the aisle all the way. Dirt, smoke and dust filled the air and covered everybody and everything. Black hair looked white and white hair looked black, by reason of the dirt.

But every trial was forgotten in the comfortable quarters furnished at Mt Washington hotel. The high-water mark in service, rooms, table, space, surroundings and general comfort was reached this year.

The program had evidently been worked out with considerable thought,

and the machinery having started on Saturday night ran smoothly and effectively until the close of the meeting. Oil was plentifully used as occasion required, attention and inattention were contributed as seemed expedient, and everybody left on schedule time on the morning of July 5. The affiliated associations brought many new people. There was a new set of people in control, acting in perfect harmony and with thorough understanding, and what was done was done with the snap of finality about it that left no room for further discussion.

The general theme of the meeting was coördination or method of co-operation. The first note on this was sounded by President Gould in his address and was emphasized later by most of the principal speakers. At the second session, library coördination was emphasized by a very practical address by F. P. Hill, in his paper on

Book storage for libraries

Mr Hill pointed out that the question was pressing, since nearly every library building erected within the past 50 years has outgrown its capacity long before the anticipated time. The question of storage presents itself in different aspects to different libraries, and the work to be done is too great to permit of unnecessary overlapping. More definite action must be taken to limit the fields of operation of each kind of library and to foster specialization. The Library of Congress has set the example by limiting the classes of investigators whom it will serve, leaving to state and municipal libraries the work which more properly belongs to them. So a line of demarcation between state and municipal libraries should be as sharply drawn and a coöperative spirit should be cultivated between the libraries, so that each may reserve its strength for a special line. To some extent, some libraries have been governed by this spirit in the purchase of their books, but more can be done along

this line. In a community where transportation is adequate, it is wasteful for libraries to duplicate, particularly for disused books. Libraries within a certain radius should decide on the different classes of books that they will collect and preserve. Such a plan need not affect the purchase of any book currently needed. An A. L. A. list of special collections should give to each librarian a key to the location of material on any subject. By use of inter-library loans the work of scholarly investigators would be helped by one or more comprehensive collections, in place of 50 incomplete collections.

A storage library may be defined as a building or space where a large number of books, little used, may be compactly stored and yet be readily accessible. The British Museum has met this problem by installing movable shelving; hanging bookcases have been placed between stationary, double-faced stacks. When books from the inner shelves are required, the hanging case may be easily moved by an arrangement of wheels, which run along the ledges. A good description of these is given in Burgoyne's "Library construction." In the Hof Bibliotek in Vienna the authorities have excavated the cellars 42 feet below grade, furnishing three stack stories in the cellar. They are perfectly dry, well lighted and abundantly ventilated. The Bodleian plan is similar to that of Vienna. The British Museum has a storage building with space for more than 100,000 v.

The three methods of storage described—compact movable cases, underground storerooms and separate buildings—offer suggestions as to ways by which little-used books may be housed, but the exact plan would depend upon special circumstances. In the future planning of library buildings the question of storage will undoubtedly receive special consideration. Plans for the new central library building in Brooklyn provide for storage by the extension of the stack proper four sto-

ries below the street level, and by the erection of a special storage stack with accommodation for 593,000 v. in the central portion of the building. Both sub-basements will have natural light, direct ventilation and will be connected by the same lifts and book carriers that run through other portions of the stack. The large storage stack in the center of the building will be connected by carriers with the desk in both the delivery and reference rooms. Special storeroom for bound newspapers and periodicals has also been provided under the newspaper and periodical rooms.

Those in charge of branch systems are feeling the need of a storage reservoir; this need is for three purposes: 1) For books needed in quantities from time to time, school collections and books for special occasions. 2) Stock room where popular books needed constantly for replacement, books for the basis of branch and station collections, may be housed. 3) A place to which may be sent such books as have outlived their usefulness.

The collections at branches must be limited in number and must consist of live and active books. By encouraging the interchange of books between libraries, only a few copies of such as appeal but to a limited class of readers need be purchased to meet the demands of the whole city. Standard works, books of power, must be in every branch, even though their circulation is small and fluctuating. Books dead in one branch may be useful in another. This is illustrated many times over in the Brooklyn library system. The fundamental question of material to be stored, grows more serious from year to year. Before any detailed plan can be presented, a general policy should be agreed upon and submitted to a committee for careful study, thorough investigation and specific recommendation. Hasty action in a question involving so much, would be unfortunate, but long postponement would be equally so.

N. D. C. Hodges of the Cincinnati

public library discussed the question of Reservoir libraries, using the arrangement of the Cincinnati library to illustrate. There they have the central building, which is the clearing house, in a way, for all branch libraries.

Miss Titcomb gave an account of the county library of Washington county, Maryland, where the books are chosen so directly to meet the needs of the various individuals and are kept moving so constantly that the question of storage seems to be settled.

Clearing houses under commercial arrangement was presented by H. W. Wilson of Minneapolis.

G. W. Lee, of the firm of Stone & Webster, Boston, who is the only member of the A. L. A. that has shown the ability to attain speed in presentation, for which Mr Dewey was noted in former years, pointed out, under the title "Ethics of A. L. A.," some of the needs which such an association might properly and profitably take up. Among others, he mentioned registration of specialties, so that people who are interested in the same things might come together at the annual meeting; a committee to look out for the newcomer, so that he should not waste any time in finding out his level and his class among the hundreds who attend the meetings. The integrity and broad spirit necessary to "the insider" to preserve him from the temptation of using for his own comfort, if not aggrandizement, the knowledge and position he holds; coördination of papers, so that various phases of a subject may be presented by specialists and thoroughly, rather than the touching here and there on many sides of a subject by one writer.

Mr Lee was a little hard to follow on account of his rapid speech and vigorous English, but his ideas were practicable, and if carried out would add greatly both to the effect and pleasure of the meetings.

The third general session was devoted to the relation of the library and

the school. An address by Prof. C. W. Colby of McGill university, and one by J. E. Banta, superintendent of schools, Binghamton, N. Y., presented the subject from the school side.

Book-using skill in higher education, by John Cotton Dana, of the Newark public library, was one of that interesting speaker's characteristic productions. It was a plea for providing scholarly workers with the material that would aid them in presenting new ideas of helpfulness, new avenues of intellectual activity, and new points of outlook on life, which, absorbed by those who are neither prepared nor have the time for the work of a scholar, will still benefit the latter, as he receives the product of sincere scholars. Mr Dana said that he meant in no way to belittle the great work that is being done for the average user of the public library, but he insists on something more being done for higher culture in this people's university, even if in so doing it is not possible to "suffer little children."

Chalmers Hadley of Indiana gave a very clear outline of the aims of library commissions. He summed up the matter as follows:

In the present trend of work, commissions must be sufficiently effective through their usefulness to make themselves centers of library activity, rather than to depend on legislation alone to do this. Their success will depend more largely on their ability to so get behind the individual libraries of a state that results of their work will be best disclosed in library conditions over the state into which the commission's activities have been completely merged. Commissions must now look forward to helping in the development of communities through a coöperation which will bring libraries into touch with the regenerative forces of the country and these through the libraries, to the people.

At this meeting admirable reports of various committees were presented, notable among which was that on library

work with the blind, presented by Emma R. Neisser of Philadelphia.

At the fourth general session communications relating to various reports were presented, and at the close, Mr Chivers gave an interesting account of recent investigations of paper manufacturers, showing by drawings and photographs the cross-sections of various kinds of paper, which have much to do with the durability of books and binding.

Mr Chivers continued his address in the afternoon, dealing particularly at this time with the binding of lending library books. It was one of the best presentations of the subject ever offered to the association. Mr Chivers has promised a later presentation of this subject for PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

In the afternoon, what was universally conceded to be the most delightful address of the entire meeting, was "A fairy tale for librarians," given by Dr S. M. Crothers of Boston. Dr Crothers' address will appear in a future number of the *Atlantic Monthly*.

A symposium on recent books for boys under the direction of Dr Bostwick was most interesting. Everett C. Tomlinson told of the making of historical stories. A paper on stories of adventure was read by W. P. Cutter.

Library work with children

The first session of the section of Library work with children took the form of a story-hour symposium. The report on story telling in Chicago's park reading rooms by Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen stated the peculiar library conditions in Chicago in the lack of a children's department and of branch libraries, and the offer of her services to this library by certain public-spirited citizens. She stated her aims in story telling, 1) to help form the children's taste and promote their reading of good books, 2) to interest the teachers in the children's reading outside of the school, 3) to assist in arousing a public sentiment in favor of

library work with children. She conducted one story hour afternoon a week in each park; actual record of attendance showed a continuity of attendance between 85 and 90 per cent. She told stories in the assembly rooms of the schools, and presented to teachers the subject of coöperation. In order to give publicity to the story hour many adults were admitted to the story hour—representatives of the daily press, parents, members of women's clubs.

The report from the New York public library given by Miss Moore reviewed the advantages in conducting story hours in a large library system. The difference between branches with such work and those without was spoken of, and it was stated that two visiting story tellers working in coöperation with the children's libraries have covered the field very well. Among the practical results of story telling was mentioned the effect upon the work of the assistants, the effect upon the reading taste, and the interest aroused among adults.

The report from the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh by Miss Hazeltine discussed the function of story telling in the library as an aid in the solution of the problem of the right use of books, the opportunity afforded the story teller to work with the children with greater freedom, the aid in establishing in the child's mind a standard of book selection. It reviewed the origin of story telling in the libraries, and its development to its present place.

Under the title Rational story telling in the public library, Miss Duff of Brooklyn reviewed the experiences of her library, and stated the conclusions that, "given ideal conditions, and a trained story teller, with love, talent and time for her work, the story hour offers opportunities not to be slighted. Under other conditions there are other activities open to the library worker with children which would prove more profitable." She mentioned conditions ad-

verse to a story hour to be inadequate size of staff to meet demands made upon it; inability to limit attendance to the library story hour afternoon, and consequent restlessness of a large crowd. She strongly advocated the formation of reading clubs.

The report from the Cleveland library was presented by Miss Gymer. She emphasized the economic value of the story in influencing the reading of large numbers of children, which could be done in no other way in the given time. Actual results in the telling of difficult stories, such as Andersen's Snow queen and stories from the Icelandic sages were given. The story hour for the older children was stated to be a means of inducing children to read connectedly books of literature and history. The importance of a wise selection of stories was brought out, and also that the temperament and environment of the children who hear them should be considered in the selection.

The unwisdom of a story hour under adverse conditions closed the report. The discussion was led by Mrs Fairchild, who commended the thoughtful attitude toward the subject expressed in the reports. Miss Lyman advocated the use of the occasional story in the small library.

The second session opened with a report on instruction in work with children in the various library schools and summer schools, made by the chairman, Miss Burnite.

The report was a digest of reports from the directors of the general library schools and summer schools in regard to the object of the course, the time given to it; the lectures, the points covered, methods of presentation and the placing of students in small libraries and in work with children.

The number of graduates now holding positions in work with children from the six regular schools which responded, is 50—Pratt 24, Albany 10, Western

Reserve 4, Drexel 6, Wisconsin 5, Simmons 1.

The report was discussed by Miss Plummer of Pratt institute library school and Mr Walter of the New York state library school at Albany.

At the close of her discussion Miss Plummer said:

Summing up, I would say, first, that in my opinion work for children cannot be given in a general library school course as a special subject, but as a necessary part of the general training; that it should be confined there to fundamental subjects; that these should be presented by the best-qualified persons as to knowledge of the subject and ability to impart that knowledge that the school can obtain; that practice should be as abundant as possible and should aim rather to train observation and arouse thought than to perfect the student in mechanical routine; and that students should not be sent out at first as independent children's librarians, but as assistants under experienced children's librarians, if they aim to enter that field at all; finally, that more specialized schools for this particular work are needed.

Beatrice Kelly, librarian of the Public library of Steubenville, Ohio, followed with a paper on the Selection of juvenile books for a small library, and Miss Kelly presented her own problem of juvenile book selection in a manufacturing town of about 20,000 inhabitants. About 35 per cent of the juvenile readers are of foreign parentage, including Irish, Germans, Italians, Poles, Hungarians, Russians and Croats. There is a room for children, but no children's librarian. The yearly book fund averages about \$1500 and the librarian generally spends from \$400 to \$500 for juvenile books. Miss Kelly says: "We keep handsome editions of certain books for room use and circulate the cheaper ones." She advocates the purchase of fairy tales, myths and legends, such as Grimm's Household

stories, Jacobs' English fairy tales, Scudder's Fables and folk stories, Baldwin's Old Greek stories, Kingsley's Greek heroes, Hawthorne's Wonder book, the King Arthur legends, the Merry adventures of Robin Hood, by Howard Pyle, the Arabian Knights, the Jungle book, and other standard books of pure literature, including the poetry of Longfellow, Whittier, Lowell, Tennyson and Scott. The foreign child has a natural love for the folk tale and poetry, and only needs to be guided into the right channel.

He also needs wholesome stories of American boy and girl life, such as the Alcott books, Jackson's Nelly's silver mine, Aldrich's Story of a bad boy, Eggleston's Hoosier school boy, Brook's Lem, and Barbour's School stories. The American boy needs stories of people and countries other than his own, such as Hans Brinker, Tom Brown's school days, Spyri's Heidi, and French's Lance of Kanana.

There should be good editions of the classics but not watered versions. There should be biography and history, and scientific books for the boy who wants to specialize.

Where there is no assistant to look after the children, the librarian must exert even greater care than where the child is guided and helped in his selection.

A discussion by Miss Wheeler of Albany emphasized the value of attractive editions and made a plea for cautious selection of new books.

Mrs Root of Providence gave a striking incident proving the value of such adaptations of the classics as the Story of Odysseus, by Marvin and others, and warned against the uncertain influence of mediocre hero stories.

At a business session of the section of work with children, held July 1, 2 p. m., the by-law on membership was amended to read as follows:

"Active or voting members shall consist of library assistants whose entire

time is given to work with children in libraries and schools and librarians and assistants who are actively representing work with children."

The following officers were appointed for the coming year: May Masee of Buffalo, chairman; Clara Herbert of Washington, secretary.

EFFIE L. POWER, Sec'y.

Catalog section

Laura Smith, head cataloger of Cincinnati public library, was chairman.

The making of the catalogs of the Library of Congress was discussed by J. C. M. Hanson, and Cataloging for branch libraries was presented in a paper prepared by Miss Hitchler of the Brooklyn public library. Those who were interested in this subject more than filled the room, and considerable discussion of various points took place.

The subject of pamphlets was treated by W. H. Tillinghast of Harvard university library and A. G. S. Josephson of The John Crerar library. In the latter library the following policy prevails:

At first, all pamphlets were bound and treated as other books, the pamphlet boxes containing merely circulars, single leaves and the like. Next, reprints from periodicals were put in the boxes if they classified in the same department as the periodical. Afterward more and more ephemeral material was put in boxes. At present most unbound items of less than 100 pages are put in classified boxes, to be bound up in volumes as the growth of the material on a certain subject warrants such treatment.

The treatment of ephemeral material in the Cleveland public library was presented by Sophie K. Hiss.

At the government documents round table a new presentation of the subject was that on the arrangement and use of government documents (without cataloging) in a depository library, presented by W. C. N. Carlton of the Newberry library of Chicago.

College and reference section

In the college and reference section interesting discussions were held on the character of reference collections, the divisions into departments, the number of necessary books, the cost and rapid change in standards, and additions.

Mr Schwab of Yale, Mr Austen of Cornell, W. C. Lane of Harvard, J. C. M. Hanson of the Library of Congress and C. W. Andrews of The John Crerar library contributed to the discussion of the problems arising from the size of great collections.

An interesting presentation was that of Mr Schwab, when he discussed the telautograph, an electrical device instantaneously causing words written at one point to appear at any other point connected with the first by an electrical wave. The writer of the message uses an electrical pencil, writing the message on a pad before him, the words appearing upon a corresponding pad upon any of the receivers with which the writer makes connection.

Library training

The discussion of the subject of library training was under the direction of Miss Plummer, who presented the report of the A. L. A. committee on library training. The library conditions which confront the library school were discussed by Julia E. Elliott of Pratt institute, and Student material for library schools by Frank K. Walter of the New York State library school. The question, Do we need a graduate school? presented by Adam J. Strohm of Trenton, was discussed by Mrs S. C. Fairchild, Chalmers Hadley, A. G. S. Josephson, H. W. Graver and others. There did not seem to be a very strong demand on the part of those present for the graduate school.

Proceedings of the council

Meeting at Bretton Woods, N. H.

An invitation from the International institute of bibliography to participate

*Mr. Strohm's paper will appear later.

in an international congress of archivists and librarians, to be held in Brussels, August, 1910, was presented. The executive board was instructed to arrange for the appointment of delegates and other details. A second invitation from the International institute of bibliography, relating to an international congress on bibliography and documentation, expressed the hope that the United States government would name delegates to it. The council concurred and took appropriate action.

A letter from the council of Jewish women asked the influence of the A. L. A. to assist as far as possible the restriction of obnoxious news in the daily press, and the development of public opinion to appreciate its danger.

A communication from the George Washington memorial association asked the A. L. A. to coöperate in the movement to build a memorial building in Washington to supply a gathering place for different organizations.

Invitations for the conference of 1910 were presented from Cedar Rapids, and indorsed by representatives of libraries in Iowa. An invitation from Pasadena, Cal., supported by letters from a large number of Californians, was received. An invitation from the Denver public library was also presented. The matter was all referred to the incoming executive board.

A resolution was adopted establishing a section of professional training for librarianship, to deal with all phases of preparation.

By vote of the council, a committee of three was appointed by the president to study the entire subject of sections of the association, with instructions to report to the council at a later meeting.

Nominations for office were made, and later were confirmed by election as follows: President, N. D. C. Hodges; vice-presidents, J. I. Wyer, jr, Alice S. Tyler; executive board, P. B. Wright, C. W. Andrews, Mrs H. L. Elmendorf, W. C. Lane, H. E. Legler, Herbert Putnam; trustee of the endowment

fund, W. C. Kimball; members of council (chosen by the association), H. W. Craver, Nina E. Browne, Myra Poland, C. B. Roden, Bernard C. Steiner.

Secretary Wyer, acting under instruction by the council, determined by lot the terms of the members elected by that body as follows:

One year—Alice B. Kroeger, C. C. Soule, George Iles, D. B. Hall, John-son Brigham.

Two years—L. E. Stearns, Cornelia Marvin, H. L. Koopman, Andrew Keogh, W. P. Cutter.

Three years—Carolina M. Hewins, Mary E. Hazeltine, Beatrice Winsor, Gratia A. Countryman, Theresa Hitchler.

Four years—John Thomson, Phineas L. Windsor, Mary W. Plummer, Mary E. Robbins, William T. Peoples.

Five years—Mrs S. C. Fairchild, George T. Little, C. S. Greene, Hiller C. Wellman, H. G. Wadlin.

Side Lights of A. L. A. Meeting

An interesting item at Bretton Woods was the display of printed material relating to library work. The H. W. Wilson Company had Part I of their children's catalog which they propose to issue, being an author, title and subject catalog of 3000 books, as a guide to the best reading for young people, based on 20 selected library lists.

The A. L. A. Publishing Board had its report printed for distribution before the meeting, a most excellent plan. A favorite leaflet was the "List of stories for boys," which are favorites in the New York public library, prepared for the symposium on recent books for boys. The statistics showed the order of preference, the number of branches using the books and the popularity of the various authors. A collection of boys' books was also on exhibition in charge of Miss Tyler of the New York public library.

An interesting item was the printed material for distribution containing a description of the John Hay library of

Brown university, Providence, R. I., contributed from the viewpoint of the library expert, the librarian and the architect, and presented by C. C. Soule, H. L. Koopman and Charles A. Coolidge. It is illustrated by exterior view, a photograph from the plaster model, and the floor plan.

The Library of Congress had its usual display of the activities undertaken for libraries, sample sheets of lists of subject headings, with additions and corrections to the same; a number of state bulletins were on exhibition.

A number of the book houses from New York made exhibits, Hough's "American Woods" being specially interesting.

The reprints of "The librarian's canons of ethics" (P. L. 14:203-4), by Charles Knowles Bolton, attracted special attention, and what was supposed to be a good supply was soon exhausted, while the demand for them continued. This would seem to indicate some interest in the ethical side of library activity.

The central theme so far as the administration of the association affairs was concerned, dealt with the adoption of the new constitution. Considerable opposition arose over the fact that the new constitution places too much power of administration in the hands of the executive board and council.

The discussion at the first conference on it almost approached the point of considerable heat, though a serious situation was avoided by the tact and good judgment of such leaders as Dr Putnam and Mr Legler, who seemingly headed the opposition forces. The constitution was finally adopted in the form resolved upon at the Minnetonka meeting.

At the second constitutional conference the question of amendments and by-laws again stirred up considerable interest, but the friends of the original draft were in power, and, profiting by the observation of the action of recent

conventions of other bodies, "the steam roller" proceeded effectively if silently on its mission.

The meeting place was conducive to relief from outside social functions, and nothing more wearing than library school dinners, select table parties, piazza conferences and dancing was indulged in. A most enjoyable contribution was the splendid string orchestra of the hotel. The best of musical writings were interpreted by musicians who were artists, and for once there was universal commendation of evening concerts. The absence of music from the dining room, which has so often been a burden at other places, was thoroughly enjoyed. The visit to the top of Mt. Washington, occupying a whole day, was a most delightful experience. Special trains were provided and the entire company was taken up in relays.

Mountain climbing and woodland walks were in favor during the entire week by large and small parties, who were able to tear themselves away from the surfeit of good things provided by the program.

A new face at the conference (and a new role for its owner) was that of George H. Locke, librarian of the Toronto public library. Mr Locke has been a prominent and active member in the educational associations of America for a dozen years, and from his seat on the "side line" at the Bretton Woods meeting, had ample opportunity to "keep busy with his thoughts." It is to be hoped that his voice and counsel may be heard at further meetings of the A. L. A.

Though a different type of man and scholar from the late lamented Dr Bain, his conduct of the Toronto public library promises as large degree of interest and helpfulness.

A trustee's report on A. L. A. meeting

A trustee of the Newark, N. J., public library was sent as a representative to the meeting of the A. L. A. and was asked to make a report to the

mayor on his return. The following was his report:

JACOB HAUSSLING, Mayor.

Honored Sir:—The American Library Association is composed of 1200 of the best and wisest men and women of the United States.

Their conference at Bretton Woods, N. H., June 30-July 3, was the best conference ever held; and it was held in the best place that can be found.

The representatives to the conference from the Newark, N. J., public library, which is the best library in the world, were the best representatives present, the most admired, the most progressive and the most influential.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD E. JENKINSON, Trustee.

State meetings

The New Hampshire library association held its annual meeting on July 2. A brief business session resulted in the election of the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Caroline H. Garland, Dover; vice-presidents, F. Mabel Winchell, Manchester, Hannah G. Fernald, Portsmouth; secretary, Grace Blanchard of Concord; treasurer, Mrs Barron Shirley of Franklin.

No effort was made to have any papers or discussions, as the many sessions and sections of the A. L. A. furnished more meetings than any one person could attend and more mental food than most could assimilate. But the opportunity of hearing a few words from Mr Hill of Brooklyn, Mr Carr of Scranton, Pa., and Mr Foss of Somerville, Mass., was not to be lost. These three having been born in New Hampshire and having attained positions of prominence outside the state were looked to for some words of suggestion and encouragement. These were heartily given and with them various expressions of wit and humor. Inadvertently the program had referred to the speakers as "illustrious sons" of the Granite State, and this expression caused no end of joking and merriment, of which a poem by Mr Foss was the outcome and with which the meeting closed.

The Library Copyright League

The Library copyright league met in the Mount Washington hotel at 8:15 p. m. on June 30, 1909. The report of the executive committee was read and approved. The election of officers resulted in the following being chosen for the year: President, Bernard C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore; secretary and treasurer, William P. Cutter, Forbes library, Northampton; additional members of the executive committee, Hiller C. Wellman, City library, Springfield; Edwin H. Anderson, New York public library; Purd B. Wright, Public library, St Joseph. After a brief discussion, it was voted to continue the organization.

The report of the executive committee covered the following points:

The new copyright act retains in every essential feature the privileges of free importation formerly enjoyed by public institutions. In one particular only has any concession been made; the new law allows of the importation of only one copy of any copyrighted book in any one invoice; but as a ruling of the United States treasury department establishes the fact that each branch of a public library is regarded by the authorities as a separate library, and as it is perfectly possible to import duplicate copies in subsequent invoices, your committee does not feel that any great loss has been made.

The new law has, in addition, a provision which should do much to prevent illegal combination on the prices of books. This section reads as follows:

That the copyright is distinct from the property in the material object copyrighted, and the sale or conveyance, by gift or otherwise, of the material object shall not of itself constitute a transfer of the copyright, nor shall the assignment of the copyright constitute a transfer of the title to the material object; but nothing in this act shall be deemed to forbid, prevent or restrict the transfer of any copy of a work copyrighted under this act, the possession of which has been lawfully obtained.

Notwithstanding this favorable result of your committee's labors, we cannot feel that the time has arrived to disband this organization, and we strongly recommend its continuance.

W. P. CUTTER, Sec'y.

League of Library Commissions

Bretton Woods meeting

The annual meeting of the League of Library commissions was held July 2 and 3 at Bretton Woods. The president, Mrs Sneed, in opening the meeting, called attention to the five new library commissions established during the last year in North Carolina, Tennessee, Illinois, Texas and Utah. After the preliminary business the various reports were received.

The publication committee promises the following at no distant date:

The Swedish list, compiled by Miss Palmgren of Stockholm.

The mending and repair of books, Margaret W. Brown of Iowa.

Why do we need a public library? Mr Hadley of Indiana.

The children's suggestive list by the Wisconsin library commission.

Magazines for the small library, revised.

The League has secured 500 copies with the League imprint and cover of the Graded list of books for schools prepared by the Buffalo public library.

In regard to the reading course for libraries in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the committee reported that it agreed with Miss Ahern that the course should be in no way a correspondence course for technical training, but one to stimulate and broaden the interest of library workers professionally; that the outline for the course, covering two years, should be arranged by the League; citations for different topics be supplied by the different commissions and that the editorial comment on the subjects under consideration be made by the editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. The question of reprint will have to be decided

before the reading course can start to advantage.

It was recommended that the League provide for a list of books in Polish to follow in character and scope the foreign lists already printed.

A committee was appointed to make plans for sectional meetings of the League in New England, the Middle West and the Pacific coast next winter.

The committee on uniform traveling blanks made a report of progress and asked for extension of time until the next midwinter meeting in order to make a little further test of the blanks before putting them in permanent form.

The report from the committee on commission work in state institutions covered a full review of the situation and made the following suggestions:

That a getting-in-touch campaign by collecting statistics, etc., followed up by personal visits and talks about books and reading in institutions where schools are carried on. Offers of help in selection of new books by sending the *A. L. A. Booklist*. Where institutions prove indifferent or unwilling to coöperate, the commission should include it in its field work rather than leave it to be administered in haphazard fashion or not at all.

The large opportunity of service in the institutions for the insane is too great for the commission to undertake, but it should endeavor to demonstrate the need and possibilities in this work, so that states will appoint librarians to supervise groups of hospitals or carry on experimental work in each. Until this is done commissions can help by sending traveling libraries especially selected for the inmates. They should consist of cheerful books of a variety of kinds in attractive form; but religion, accounts of crime, hypnotism and kindred subjects should be eliminated from the collection. Several commissions reported on the work done by their traveling libraries in penal and charitable institutions in several states.

The report of the committee on es-

sentials of a model commission law was presented by Mr Hadley. (This will appear in full in PUBLIC LIBRARIES later.)

The second session was devoted to papers on the Work in the field, a series of personal experiences in the East and West. Miss Stearns of Wisconsin sketched the opportunity presented by a state of 2,200,000, representing 29 nationalities, scattered over a district the size of New England and averaging only 36 people to the square mile. She outlined the opportunity for service offered, by relating many interesting experiences showing the different phases of work, its hardships and compensations, emphasizing the personal touch and sympathetic attitude as essential factors in winning success.

Miss Templeton of Nebraska told of her work "With the prairie dwellers of Nebraska," where magnificent distances add to the difficulties, but where wide horizons make for breadth of vision. In the southeastern part of the state, a region of rich farms, comfortable homes, prosperous towns and excellent schools, library conditions are favorable and the work is carried on with boundless enthusiasm, faith in the future and a generous spirit of coöperation. In the northwestern part of the state, the real West, with its prairies, sand hills and buttes, the great cattle country, with tremendous isolation, the work is carried on entirely through traveling libraries and individual loans. The people are so widely scattered that even a traveling library cannot be easily circulated. Young people are eager for education and work with teachers' institutes has brought large results.

The story of "Down in Missouri" by Miss Wales told of the supply of public libraries insufficient for the population of the state. Most of the private institutions, all of the large universities and two-thirds of the public libraries are located close to the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, leaving a large area still to be developed. Schools are the

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centers of work and there is abundant evidence that the traveling library is appreciated. There is a lack of organization, but general reports are encouraging.

The attitude of the State normal schools toward the work of the commission is helpful.

Miss Askew of the New Jersey commission presented a graphic picture of "Jersey roads and Jersey paths, being tales of pine woods folk, charcoal burners and others." Miss Askew told of the traveling library work in the granges, the part played by story telling in locating traveling libraries and arousing interest in books among the dwellers in the piney woods and mountains, closing with an account of the introduction of lace making in one locality.

The program closed by a delightful story, "On the trail of the book wagon," told by Miss Titcomb of Maryland. This was one of the rare bits of the day. In it was no account of actual poverty, but thrift and comfort. The dwellers of prosperous farm houses are served by the book wagon. All kinds of people, if garrulous, await eagerly the coming of the wagon. The greatest boom, however, is to the women and children, and there is much pleasant conversation over the books themselves, but the men in the country who read are in a larger proportion than in the city.

Officers of the League for the year were elected as follows:

President, Arthur L. Bailey, Delaware; first vice-president, Louis R. Wilson, North Carolina; second vice-president, Frances Hobart, Vermont; secretary and treasurer, Margaret W. Brown, Iowa.

Publication committee, Clara F. Baldwin, Minnesota; Charlotte Templeton, Nebraska; Chalmers Hadley, Indiana.

Committee on libraries for the United States penitentiaries, Chalmers Hadley, Mary E. S. Root, W. F. Witcher.

Mid-winter meetings, A. L. Baily, H. E. Legler, C. S. Green.

National Association of State Libraries

There were four sessions held, at which an earnest discussion of the problems pertaining to state libraries were discussed.

An important report was that of Mr. Goddard of Connecticut for the committee on bibliography. He referred to the need of continuing Miss Hasse's index, and introduced resolutions, which were passed, urging an index to the Index of legislation for the 20 years during which it had been published.

It was voted that a committee be appointed to confer with the various municipal associations of the country upon the publication of a municipal year book for the United States, which should give a list of the boards and commissions in the United States.

Mr. Brigham reported for the committee on membership, recommending increased efforts to bring more representatives of the state libraries into the association, the sending of at least one representative to the annual conference at the state's expense, and among other things, a resistance to all attempts to withdraw the association from its present affiliation with the A. L. A.

The functions of the state library, when its activities are restricted to the service of the state government, was presented by Mr. King of Minnesota. Mr. Wyer presented the value of the functions of the state library when its activities are extended to the whole state.

Dr. Whitten's review on "Two decades of comparative legislation" was admirable. He spoke of the need of care in using the legislation of other states, lest defective laws be blindly copied; pointed out the need of having experts to draw up bills; advised against this work being done by a legislative reference bureau to the detriment of its constructive work in collecting information on subjects of legislation under discussion. He also pointed out the valuable work

which can be done by a bureau of statistics along the same line. He brought out most strikingly the value of experts in the government of the state and city by an account of the organization of the Public service commission of New York City, and also pointed out the help we can derive from a study of the experience of European countries in dealing with problems which they have had to deal with, and which are now demanding our attention, and referred to the lack of documents in this country for such a study.

The question of government documents was discussed by Mr Montgomery, Mr Carlton and Mr Post. A resolution commendatory of Mr Post as superintendent of documents, and urging the public printer, in making the appointment of the new superintendent, to place in charge one with experience or training in library work.

Mr Hastings discussed the work of the Library of Congress in printing cards for United States documents.

Mr Andrews reported on a model law for the distribution of state documents.

Mr Legler of Wisconsin traced the beginnings of library bulletins from their first appearance in 1869 through their various forms. There are now 15 bulletins published under state authority, representing 14 commonwealths. Of these there is a combined annual issue of 102,000. Of bulletins issued by municipal libraries, there are about 13 in this country and a dozen in England. Summarized by states, the totals of the bulletins, exclusive of those issued by commissions and state libraries, are as follows: Massachusetts, 17; New York, Illinois, Connecticut, each 6; Missouri, Pennsylvania, each 4; New Jersey, Michigan, New Hampshire, each 3; Rhode Island, Nebraska, Ohio, California, each 2; Vermont, Delaware, Maryland, Georgia, Montana, Indiana, Colorado, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon, Texas, District of Columbia, each 1.

Bibliographical Society

The Bibliographical society of America held a meeting of considerable interest. President W. C. Lane, librarian of Harvard university, in his annual address told of American progress in bibliography. Prof. G. P. Baker, Harvard, presented a paper on Elizabethan plays. Percy W. Long of Springfield, Mass., discussed English dictionaries before Webster, and W. C. Ford of the Massachusetts Historical society, Calendaring of manuscripts. A. Fanti of the Library of Congress reported upon recent bibliographical work in Italy.

A. L. A. Post-Conference Trip

The reports of the post-conference trip are full of expressions of delight at the great pleasure it afforded and of appreciation of the unfailing kindness of the conductor, F. W. Faxon. Everything went smoothly, personal comfort was provided and the best of spirits prevailed. The party left Bretton Woods early on the morning of July 5 in six six-horse and two four-horse coaches for an eight-day trip "through mountains and by shore." Only one who knows by experience the joys of such a ride, "through wood and valley, o'er plain and hill," with its attendant evenings at good hotels, its opportunities for walks, talks and silences, its views and sunshine, waterfalls and flowing rivers, "down to the sea," can form even a small notion of the great pleasure of it all. The only sad thing about it all was that it had to end! Libraries and their attendant joys and trials had been forgotten completely in the pleasure of the trip and everyone was willing that it should be so. The most that could be was made of the last three days at the Sparhawk, and the delightful evening spent with John Kendrick Bangs, George Jay Smith and Nathan Haskun Dole as entertaining guests crowned the delight, which was the rule of the road from Bretton Woods to Ogunquit, Me.

National Education Association

At the opening session of the Library department of the National education association, President Felmley presided. Dr R. J. Aley, state superintendent of public instruction, Indiana, read a paper on Use of books by high school pupils. In the discussion that followed it was brought out that a good high school library should have at least 10,000 v. and a special librarian. Dr E. E. Brown, U. S. commission of education, described the reorganization of the library of the Bureau of Education at Washington, and spoke of the possibility for helpfulness it offered to the teachers of the country in the material it contains. Others who discussed the question of high school books were Mr Dudley of Denver, Miss Salisbury of the East Denver high school; Miss Johnson of the Public library of Nashville, Tenn., Miss Brown of the New Orleans high school, Superintendent Wells of Loveland, Colo., and Mr Bigelow of Lead, S. D. Mr Dudley gave an account of the conference of the A. L. A.

Mr Gaillard presided at the second day's session. Miss Tobitt, librarian of the Public library of Omaha, presented a paper on The plan of a course of instruction in the use of libraries, and the results accomplished. Francis G. Blair, state superintendent of public instruction of Illinois, read a paper on Books as educational tools in the common schools. Charles E. Chadsey, superintendent of schools, Denver, read a paper on What shall each, the library and the school, contribute to make the educated man?

The record of attendance showed 50 teachers present and 35 librarians, a number also who were neither teachers nor librarians.

Officers were elected as follows: President, E. W. Gaillard, New York City; vice-president, C. E. Chadsey, Denver, Colo.; secretary, Mary Hannah Johnson, Public library, Nashville, Tenn.
J. F. DANIELS, Sec'y.

Library Meetings

Connecticut—A library institute was held July 11-23 under direction of the Connecticut public library committee at Danbury. Instruction in various forms of library economy was given by Mrs B. H. Johnson of the state committee and Miss Hadley of Winstead. Fifteen students were in attendance, and 16 library visitors were present at one or more of the sessions.

A. B. Morrill of the New Haven normal school gave a lecture on Reading the best books. Miss Rockwell of New Britain made comments on the books of the year best worth buying for small libraries. H. H. Ballard of Pittsfield spoke on Neglected opportunities in library work. Miss Hewins of Hartford gave a number of lectures on work with children. Miss Shepard of Springfield, Mass., gave a lecture on Library advertising, and met the students informally during the week.

N. L. Bishop of the library committee was at several of the sessions of the institute. A. E. Bostwick gave a lecture on The librarian, describing three kinds of librarians, one of day before yesterday, who encourages some classes and shuns others; one of yesterday, who welcomes everyone, but fails to make connection between the man and the books, and the librarian of today, who knows both books and men, closing with a picture of the librarian of tomorrow, an improvement on the librarian of today in increased civic pride, breadth of view, and desire to promote the welfare of all institutions of her town. W. B. Briggs, librarian of Trinity college, gave a lecture on the use of reference books. Miss Hobart of the Vermont library commission gave a lecture on "Some libraries I have known." Miss Hadley of the Ansonia library talked on the relation of the library to teachers and school children.

John Cotton Dana made the closing address of the session on Children's books, taking the ground that it is bet-

ter for a library to put a small collection of books into every classroom in the schools of a town or city than to spend time and energy in story telling, and that the point to which the librarian's efforts should be directed is inducing teachers to read and know the best books for children, of which there are only a few hundred, so few that they can be freely duplicated in a large library.

The social side of the institute was admirably provided for by receptions, picnics, drives, etc. A similar institute has been planned for next summer.

Massachusetts—The Bay Path library club met at Worcester, June 18. Lists of recent books desirable for small libraries were given out, and discussed under the direction of Mr Shaw of Worcester. Mrs R. K. Shaw gave a talk on Why are you a librarian? She emphasized the duties of the three factors—the librarian, the books and the public. A paper on Robert Louis Stevenson by Mrs Smith of Springfield was full of interest.

The officers elected were: President, M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield; vice-president, Mrs Grace M. Whittemore, Hudson; secretary, Emily M. Haynes, Worcester; treasurer, Mrs Clara A. Fuller, Oxford.

Texas—The seventh annual meeting of the Texas library association was held at Austin June 14-15, with an average attendance of 40; 11 libraries were represented. President Wyche spoke upon the progress of libraries in Texas in the past 10 years, concluding with the following statistics of public libraries in Texas:

Number of buildings, 30; total cost, \$731,500; number of libraries without buildings, 6; number of books, 200,340; circulation last year, 621,213; number of borrowers, 63,272; library income, \$92,864; permanent endowments, \$545,000; valuation of library property exclusive of endowments, \$1,201,514.

An interesting session was devoted to

the relation of libraries and schools. It was voted that the association should prepare a graded list of books for rural school libraries for distribution.

The members of the new Texas library commission and others interested pressed the possibilities to be accomplished by the new state library commission, and many practical suggestions were offered, covering a summer library school, digest of library reports, uniform blanks for reports, and a check list of Texas publications.

The subject of library work for children was presented by Miss Snodgrass of San Antonio, Miss Smith and others.

Mrs McKennon presented the problems of a college library, and Mrs. Alexander of Terrell spoke on "The daily routine of a small library."

The following officers were elected: President, Benjamin Wyche; first vice-president, Mrs A. E. Alexander; second vice-president, Mrs W. S. Banks; secretary, Maud Smith; treasurer, Gertrude Mathews.

A New Library Association

A significant meeting was held at the University of Washington, June 8-10, when, under the auspices of the Washington library association, the Pacific Northwest library association was organized, and plans laid for its future development. Persons prominent in educational and library affairs in the Northwest were present and contributed to the success of the meeting, and gave promise of further assistance in the conduct and development of the new organization.

President Kane of the University of Washington, Cornelia Marvin of the Oregon library commission, State Librarian Hitt of Washington, Librarian Henry of the University of Washington, Mr Scholefield of the Library of Parliament, B. C., Librarian Douglass of the University of Oregon, Miss Isom of the Portland library, Mr Jennings of the Seattle public library, Mr Hopper

of Tacoma and many librarians of Washington and Oregon, together with a number of the professors from the universities and colleges of the region, were present and took part in the proceedings. Each brought helpful and effective reports of the work in their particular province, and its relation to the other educational work around them, all showing that there was an active library spirit, an intelligent comprehension of library development, grounds for an intelligent and sympathetic coöperation and every reason to hope for an effective plan of work, promising profitable results.

Miss Marvin's address on the Work of a library commission, Miss Meissner's address on Library training for teachers, and the accompanying discussions were followed by a statement from Librarian Henry of the University of Washington, that that institution would offer an elective course for four years in library training that will correspond to a one-year course in a standard library school. It was stated that the work in this library course will be regularly credited toward a bachelor's degree, and those who take it will be given a certificate for the work done.

Miss Austin, primary supervisor of the Tacoma public schools, pointed out what the school needs from the library. The work and organization of county libraries, selection of children's books, the collection of Northwest history, and Mr Scholefield's account of library development in the province of British Columbia formed important and interesting subjects of discussion. Altogether the meeting was profitable and interesting, and starts out with every promise of success.

The social side was fully provided for, and an *esprit de corps* that promises well for future success was engendered.

The officers of the new association are as follows: President, J. T. Jennings, Seattle, Wash.; first vice-presi-

dent, Cornelia Marvin, Salem, Ore.; second vice-president, E. O. S. Scholefield, Legislative library, British Columbia; secretary, F. F. Hopper, Tacoma, Wash.; treasurer, Ellen Garfield Smith, Walla Walla, Wash.

Coming Library Meetings

The annual meeting of the Illinois library association will be held at East St. Louis, Ill., on Tuesday-Thursday, October 12-14. An interesting and helpful program has been provided.

F. K. W. DRURY, Sec.

Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio will hold a tri-state library meeting at Louisville October 20-22. A fine program has been provided and the meeting promises to be one of unusual interest and profit to all connected with library work.

The ninth annual meeting of the Keystone state library association will be held on Friday and Saturday, the twenty-ninth and thirtieth of October, at the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

There will be opportunities for not only visiting the Pittsburgh library, its branch libraries and the Training school for children's librarians, but also the libraries in the vicinity.

All librarians in the state are urged to be present, as the meeting promises to be one of unusual interest.

DAISY MARY SMITH, Sec'y.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Michigan library association will be held at the Hoyt library, Saginaw, October 6-7. N. D. C. Hodges, president of the A. L. A., will be the principal speaker. A strong program of very general interest is promised.

The Nebraska library association will hold a three days' library institute preceding the regular annual meeting at Beatrice, Neb., in October. The arrangements are in the hands of the committee, of which Miss Templeton of the library commission is chairman.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

Training schools for children's librarians

The Training school for children's librarians closed August 14, to reopen October 13. During the summer term the practice work of the students has been in the summer playgrounds of Pittsburgh, each student having charge of the circulation of books and of the story telling in one playground. This work has given the students a very different experience with children from any they could have in the children's rooms in the libraries.

Regular courses of study during the summer term have been: Administration of children's rooms; Business methods; Literature for children.

The following special lecturers were heard:

Mrs S. C. Fairchild, formerly vice-director of the New York state library school.

W. H. Brett, librarian of the Cleveland public library.

Josephine A. Rathbone, instructor in Pratt institute library school.

Drexel institute

Julia A. Hopkins, New York state library school, will succeed Helen Rex Keller as instructor in the Library school.

The school year began October 1.

Graduate notes

Mary H. Shaffner, '94, was married on June 19 to Dr Stephen Lockett of Philadelphia.

Sarah C. N. Bogle, '04, resigned her position as branch librarian of the Ozone Park branch, Queensborough public library, to become branch librarian of the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Helen D. Subers, '06, is cataloging the High school library of Ionia, Mich.

Alice R. Eaton, '08, has been appointed assistant in the Free library commission, Harrisburg, Pa.

Class of 1909

Elsie M. Cornew has been engaged this summer in cataloging the library of the Woman's medical college, Philadelphia.

Mellie M. Smith has been appointed cataloger in the State agricultural college library, Ames, Ia.

Mary M. W. Hershberger has been appointed librarian of Juniata college, Huntingdon, Pa.

Jeanne Griffin has been engaged as cataloger in the Public library of Jackson, Mich.

Grace E. Perkins has been appointed assistant cataloger in the State library, Hartford, Conn.

Agnes Kryder is a substitute in the Free library, Newark, N. J.

University of Illinois

The library school began its work September 22. The institution's force remains the same, with the addition of Director P. L. Windsor, who begins his first year as head of the school.

Ethel Bond, 1908, has resigned her position in the Catalog department at Northwestern university to become head cataloger at Ohio Wesleyan university, Delaware, Ohio.

Alta Stansbury, 1903, who, since her graduation, has been librarian of the Port Huron, Mich., public library, has resigned to become librarian of the Public library at Spokane, Wash.

Mary P. Billingsley, 1908, has taken a position in the Kansas state library, at Topeka.

Effie Sands, ex-1909, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Red Wing, Minn. Her duties began in June.

Jennie Craig, 1909, who acted as a temporary assistant in the Catalog department of the University of Illinois during the summer months, has been added permanently to that department.

Ella McIntire, 1909, has been made librarian of Huron college, Huron, S. D.

Grace Wormer, ex-1910, was librarian

of Tipton, Ia., public library from May until September, when she was appointed assistant librarian of the Waterloo, Ia., library.

Roxana Johnson, 1909, has been assisting temporarily in the Catalog department at the University of Illinois.

Norah McNeill, 1909, assisted in organizing the High school library at Leroy, Ill., during the month of May. The work was in charge of Inez Sachs, 1909. Miss McNeill has been appointed librarian of the High school at Lead, S. D.

Bertha Schneider, ex-1909, assisted as junior reviser in the Illinois library school during the spring of 1909 and later as a temporary assistant in the Catalog department of the university.

Nellie Robertson, 1909, was employed as an assistant at the loan desk in the University of Illinois library during the summer.

Antoinette Goetz, 1910, has been assisting in the Catalog department of the University of Illinois.

Clara Touzalin, 1909, has been appointed junior assistant at The John Crerar library, Chicago.

Elizabeth Smith, 1909, has been organizing the library of the State museum of natural history at Springfield, Ill.

Eva McMahon, 1908, formerly at Armour institute, Chicago, has been appointed assistant librarian at the Northern Illinois state normal school, De Kalb.

Elizabeth Ritchie, 1909, has been appointed temporary cataloger in the Kansas state library, Topeka.

Inez Sachs has been cataloging the Public library at New Harmony, Ind., during August. In July Miss Sachs assisted in the Catalog department of the University of Illinois.

Elizabeth Forrest, 1906, former reference assistant at the University of Illinois, has resigned her position on account of ill health.

Alice Johnson, 1907, has been transferred from the Catalog department to

the position of reference assistant at the University of Illinois.

FRANCES SIMPSON.

Pratt institute

By a vote of the trustees, the name of the school will hereafter be the Pratt institute school of library science, the other departments of the institute also taking the name of schools.

Entrance examinations were given on June 11 to 54 persons, 35 of them being examined at a distance and 19 at the institute. The examinees represented 15 states and Germany, and the average age was 24.

Two students who left the school during the year on account of illness will return and finish their course the coming year.

The school opened September 13, with a class of 25, including one of last year's class finishing a course cut short by illness.

The registration classifies by states as follows:

New York, 7; Georgia, 1; Michigan, 3; Montana, 1; Indiana, 3; Wisconsin, 1; Ohio, 1; California, 1; New Jersey, 2; Massachusetts, 2; Iowa, 2; Pennsylvania, 1.

There are eight college graduates in the class, six who have had one or more years of college, and 12 who have had some library experience.

The faculty for the year consists of the Director and Josephine A. Rathbone and Edith Johnson, instructors, with the usual regular lecturers. The Director will undertake full work this year, and Miss Johnson will assume the work carried last year by Miss Elliott.

The class of 1909 is distributed as to positions, as follows:

Baldwin, Marguerite, assistant, Tompkins Square branch, New York Public library.

Browne, Ruth E., assistant, University of North Dakota library.

Campbell, Alice C., assistant, State normal school library, Geneseo, N. Y.

Craig, Helen M., assistant, Library of Engineering societies, New York.

Gaston, Ethelwyn, cataloger, Princeton University library.

Griggs, Lillian, cataloger, Public library, St. Louis, Mo.

Hamlin, Myra L., assistant, Public library, Bangor, Me.

Hoyt, Stella R., assistant, Ferguson library, Stamford, Conn.

Huestis, Alma, assistant, Children's museum library, Brooklyn.

Leatherman, Minnie, secretary of the North Carolina library commission.

Lucht, Julius, librarian, Public library, Leavenworth, Kan.

MacMurchy, Marjorie, cataloger, University of Toronto library, Canada.

Noyes, Miliam, librarian, Public library, Oshkosh, Wis.

Prendergast, Mary E., first assistant, Columbus branch, New York public library.

Simmons, Ethel, cataloger, Public library, Minneapolis.

Steele, Katharine D., librarian, Hearst library, Lead, S. D.

Werrey, Edna, assistant, Chatham Square branch, New York public library.

Western Reserve university

Mrs Amy S. Hobart, '06, has been transferred from assistant at the St Clair branch of the Cleveland public library to the head of stations department.

Mabel D. Jones, '08, has received the appointment of librarian of the Young Men's Christian association library in Charlestown, W. Va.

Hortense Foglesong, '05, has resigned her position as cataloger in the Marietta college library and expects to spend the winter in study in Boston.

Magdaline Newman, '05, has resigned her position as cataloger in the Dayton public library, to accept the position in the Marietta college library made vacant by the resignation of Miss Foglesong.

Eliza Townsend, '05, has resigned her position of librarian of the Public library of Manistee, Mich., to become field and reference assistant in the Iowa State library commission.

JULIA M. WHITTLESEY, Director.

Wisconsin

The closing exercises of the class of 1909 were held on Tuesday evening, June 22. Dr R. G. Thwaites presided. C. W. Andrews of Chicago gave the

principal address on the subject of Library coöperation, and Rev. R. H. Edwards of Madison spoke of the Librarian as a social factor in the community. The class gift, a beautiful plaster cast of Guido Reni's Aurora, was presented to the school by Julia Robinson, the president of the class. The presentation of diplomas by Mr Legler followed, and the evening closed with an informal reception.

Appointments—Class of 1909

The following list is supplementary to the one published in the June number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Lena V. Brownell, assistant, Public library, Superior, Wis.

Winnie Bucklin, librarian, Devils Lake, N. D.

Edwina Casey, assistant, State library of Kansas, Topeka, Kan.

Stella E. Hanson, librarian, Public library, Two Harbors, Minn.

Gertrude Husenetter, assistant (substitute), Public library, Racine, Wis.

Grace Lane, assistant cataloger, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ruth Knowlton, assistant, Public library, Oshkosh, Wis.

Winifred B. Merrill, assistant, Legislative reference library, Madison, Wis.

Angie Messer, assistant cataloger (substitute), State historical library, Madison, Wis.

Bertha H. Rogers, assistant, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Alma L. Wilkins, assistant, Legislative reference library, Madison, Wis.

Alumni notes

Caroline Gregory ('07) has resigned her position as assistant at the Soho branch, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, to accept the position of children's librarian at the Public library of Superior, Wis.

Julia S. Osborne ('07) assisted in clerical work on the *A. L. A. Booklist* during the summer.

Winnie V. Foster ('08) has resigned her position as librarian at Mosinee,

to take the position of assistant at the Stevenson public library, Marinette, Wis.

Marguerite Cunningham ('08) and Lewis W. Parks were married Aug. 28, 1909, and will be at home in Watertown, Wis., after Jan. 1, 1910.

Anna D. Smith ('07), children's librarian of the Madison public library, will remain at home the coming year for a rest.

Nellie E. Scholes, Summer session ('07), has resigned her position as assistant at Marinette, Wis., to become librarian at Maywood, Ill.

Genevieve Mayberry, Short course ('08), has handed in her resignation as assistant of the Public library, Oconto, Wis., to take a similar position at the Madison public library.

Mary Emogene Hazeltine, preceptor of the Library school, has just returned from an extended tour in Europe. Mrs. Harriet P. Sawyer served as acting preceptor during her absence.

Ada McCarthy ('07) and Mrs T. R. Brewitt ('08), members of Miss Hazeltine's party, have returned from their trip abroad. Miss McCarthy takes up her work again at Rhinelander, Wis. Mrs Brewitt will spend a month at her home in Spokane, Wash., before resuming her duties at Madison.

Summer Library Schools

Alabama

The second summer course in library training offered in Alabama, was taken by 11 persons. The class was in charge of Miss T. D. Barker, a graduate of the library training school at Atlanta. The course included the regular routine work of a library, and was followed with enthusiasm and profit by the students.

Chautauqua

The ninth annual session of the Chautauqua library school was held July 3-August 14, under the directorship of Melvil Dewey, assisted by Mary E. Downey, Sabra W. Vought, Alice E.

Sanborn and Annie F. Petty. Additional lectures were given by Mrs El-mendorf, Marilla W. Freeman, Mrs E. S. Barnett and Dr E. M. Mosher. The Chautauqua and Patterson libraries were used for reference and practical work. Visits to nearby libraries and manufacturers were made. Strenuous class work was supplemented by relaxation through the unsurpassed attractions which Chautauqua affords. The registration was as follows:

Ohio 13; New York two; and one each from Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Many visiting librarians, trustees and other interested persons were present from time to time and consulted in regard to library matters, making this feature a very important part of the work.

Indiana

The summer school conducted by the library commission of Indiana at Earlham college, had an enrollment of 22 students. A total of 87 lectures was given during the course by the faculty and other visiting lecturers, divided as follows: Cataloging, 18; other technical processes, 23; government documents, 10; reference, 8; book selection, 8; children's work, 10; topics of library interest, 8; bookbinding, 2. Mr Hertzberg of the Monastery Bindery, Chicago, gave a lecture on bookbinding, illustrated by an interesting display of bindings and bookbinding material.

A library institute, with numerous topics, which could not be considered in the regular course, were given consideration. This was in the nature of a round table with a question box.

There was a display of pamphlet binders, mounted clippings, statistical sheets, financial records, etc.

A trip of library inspection to the Muncie public library was a pleasant feature. The visitors were the guests of the Muncie library, and everything to insure the pleasure and comfort of the guests was provided.

Iowa

The ninth session of the Iowa Summer library school was held at Iowa City June 21-July 31. There were 21 students in attendance for the regular course, with a few additional ones for the course in children's work under Miss Lyman.

The instructors were Harriet E. Howe, head cataloger of the University of Iowa library; Isabella M. Cooper of the New York public library, and Malcolm G. Wyer, the university librarian. The course in Library work with children, which has been an important feature of the Iowa school from the beginning, was given as usual by Miss Lyman, the well-known story teller and lecturer on children's books. The lectures on Library administration were given by Miss Tyler, director of the school, and those on Binding and repair and loan systems were given by Margaret W. Brown, librarian of the Iowa traveling library. During the course lectures were given by visiting librarians and members of the Library commission, including State Librarian Brigham, Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Townner of the commission, Miss Wood of Cedar Rapids and Miss Duren of Waterloo. Prof. B. F. Shambaugh gave two instructive and entertaining lectures on the work of the State historical society and its publications.

The school enjoyed the usual interesting and helpful visit to the Cedar Rapids public library and the Iowa Masonic library, where they were hospitably entertained at a luncheon by the Cedar Rapids library staff and trustees and Mr Parvin and his staff. An outing of unusual interest was enjoyed one Saturday during the session by a trip to the Amana Community, located about 25 miles from Iowa City. This is the largest communistic society in this country, owning about 25,000 acres of choice Iowa land, with flourishing shops and factories, and, owing to the recent book by Mrs B. F. Sham-

baugh on the Community, is of renewed interest to Iowans.

The reception at the new home of President and Mrs MacLean was one of the pleasing features of the summer, and a delightful evening of stories and songs of Irish folklore was given the students by Miss Sawyer of New York, a guest of Mrs Howe, one of the library commissioners.

The students and instructors lived in a Fraternity house, where the opportunities for personal acquaintance and conference added much to the pleasure and value of the school.

Michigan

In 1906 the State librarian of Michigan, Mrs M. C. Spencer, under direction of the State library commission, instituted courses of instruction in elementary library methods for teachers in the normal schools of the state. The work for this summer was unusually successful. The libraries of the various institutions, supplemented by a generous selection from the state library material, were at hand for laboratory work. Instruction was given in the selection of the best books, criticism of a model library, technical work in the simple principles of library economy, and the use of pictures, illustrated by loan collections from various libraries.

The work at the State normal school at Mt Pleasant was under the direction of Ethel R. Sawyer; that at the Western normal school at Kalamazoo under the direction of Esther Braley; and that at the Northern normal school at Marquette under the direction of Grace E. Salisbury, librarian of the White-water normal school, Wisconsin.

Many of the lectures in all of the schools were attended by students not electing the course. Class attendance ranged from 50 to 300, according to the popularity of the subject treated. The instructors feel that this has been the most successful of the four years that this work has been given.

A noticeable increase in interest and

intelligent enthusiasm for library work is evident among the teachers of Michigan.

New York State library school

The twelfth session of the summer school, with Miss Bacon in charge, was held June 9-July 21. The number of students was limited to 28, 21 of whom were from New York state; 25 took the general course, two took a special course and one was forced by illness in her family to leave early in the session.

Eighty-five lectures were given, 39 of which required from two to four hours' technical work in connection with them. Other lectures called for collateral reading or examination of library material.

Miss Lyman's four lectures on work with children were received with great enthusiasm. Her analysis of child nature at different ages, her grasp of the fundamental principles of book selection for children, her sane views on story telling, and her power and charm as a story teller appealed strongly to the students.

A three-hour examination was given at the end of the course, and 24 students passed and received certificates.

This general course will not be given again until 1911. In 1910 two consecutive courses will be offered, each lasting three weeks. Students may apply for either course or for both. Those taking both will have all the subjects usually treated at length in the general course, except administration, book selection and work with children, and will cover more ground in bibliography, reference and government documents than has heretofore been possible in the general course. The work offered in classification, cataloging and shelf-listing will be essentially the same as that given during the last two years.

"The Spartans did not inquire how many the enemy are, but where they are."—Agis II.

Report of Commission on Chicago Public Library

The commission appointed last April to study the public library system of Chicago and to make recommendations for its further development, reported to the Chicago Public library board on September 27. The report is comprehensive and full of interest.

The earlier idea of a public library was that of a collection of books relating to every department of knowledge and literature, more stress being laid upon having the books than upon having them used. The modern library idea is to put the books, as freely as possible, into the hands of the people, and in the development of this policy nothing is more striking than the spirit which actuates the modern librarian, the spirit of aggressive helpfulness rather than inactive guardianship.

Under the guidance of the first librarian, Dr W. F. Poole, the library became notable for the value and comprehensiveness of its collection. The policy of gathering valuable works has been maintained and Chicago may well be proud of its library from this point of view. But the successive boards of directors have failed to adopt the more aggressive methods of the modern library.

The library has not made itself known, and there exists in the public mind today a large measure of indifference, due to lack of information about the resources of the library and its vital relation to the people. The public should be made acquainted with its public library.

The report commends the policy of economy which has succeeded during the past seven years in raising the library from an almost bankrupt condition to a sound financial footing. The library is not only solvent but is carrying a cash surplus sufficient to pay operating expenses for three months. The library has an endowment fund of \$212,000, the income from which has

been saved until there is an accumulation of \$30,000, entirely apart from other money. The report recommended that the policy of economy having accomplished its purpose, all the available resources should now be utilized to bring the library the highest possible efficiency, and every effort should be made to increase these resources by legislation and by attracting private beneficence.

The board of directors, as a legislative body, should be made up of men of the first rank, who have demonstrated their capacity for affairs. They should recognize it as their duty to determine their policies and leave entirely to the librarian details of administration. The librarian should be the executive head of the library. On him rests the responsibility of the administration. He should take the initiative in matters of policy and practice, should make nominations for appointments to the staff, recommend promotions or increases in salary; in short, he should assume all duties which devolve upon an executive officer. Anything less reduces the board to the necessity of choosing its librarian from unprogressive ranks of mediocrity.

No less important is the selection and maintenance of a classified staff. The methods of appointment, discipline and promotion should permit the introduction of the best classified persons wherever found. Unless civil service rules are administered with intelligent appreciation of the needs of the library they may seriously hamper its efficiency.

The lack of classification in the present service and the dearth of trained experts, the meager provisions for work with young people and the schools, as well as the lack of coöperation of the Public library with other beneficial forces in Chicago, were pointed out.

The great need to be met is a harmonious, efficient and enthusiastic corps of workers. The following are some of the definite recommendations:

Legislation to fix upon the librarian full responsibility of administering the library as its executive head.

The removal of the office of chief librarian from application of the civil service law.

A plan for the reorganization of the library service.

The fiscal year of the library should be made to correspond with the fiscal year of the city.

The development of an adequate system of branch libraries. The creation of public sentiment to the end that funds may be secured for this.

A full measure of coöperation by frequent conferences between the public library and other public bodies, at which detailed reports should be made and plans discussed.

The organization of a children's department with specially trained and skilled workers.

In the purchase of books, the demands upon the library as a circulating center should govern in providing duplication of works most in demand.

A strong policy of publicity by concise reports, bulletins, reading lists and letters, through which an intelligent conception of the library may be acquired by the public.

The report will be issued in pamphlet form by the Board later.

The A. L. A. Meeting, 1910

At the meeting of the Executive Board in Chicago, September 1, it was decided to hold the next meeting of A. L. A. in New York City some time in July, 1910. This was Pres. Hodge's suggestion, though not the unanimous choice of the board. The fact of the International library congress at Brussels next summer affected the decision, as a matter of economy in travel expenses.

The well-known London journalist and author, Clement K. Shorter, has undertaken a regular semi-monthly English literary letter for *The Dial*. Probably no one in London is more closely in touch with the world of books and authors than Mr Shorter; certainly no one is able to write of them more informally and entertainingly. Mr Shorter's first letter appears in *The Dial* for October 1.

News from the Field

East

Edith E. Clarke, for 11 years librarian of the Billings library of the University of Vermont, has resigned, and is for the present at Syracuse, N. Y.

Rebecca W. Wright, B. L. S., N. Y. '05, has resigned her position in the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh to catalog the Kellogg-Hubbard library, Montpelier, Vt.

J. M. Burnham, for 28 years assistant librarian of Brown university, Providence, R. I., died Sept. 11, 1909. He was connected with the university library from 1881, being appointed under Dr Reuben A. Guild.

He was a man of retiring disposition, and only a few knew the riches of his mind and heart. His special study was music, in which his taste inclined him to works of the loftiest character. He was also interested in historical investigation.

The New Britain (Conn.) institute in its annual report for the year ending March 31, 1909, shows a circulation of 120,916 v., a slight gain over the preceding year. The new registration, begun October 1, numbers 6653 persons. The pay duplicate collection started in December has proved very popular. The income from invested funds was \$5000 and the city appropriation was \$4000. Two oil paintings were purchased from the Talcott art fund. The population of New Britain is 44,000, but 7000 of which is of Anglo-American stock.

Central Atlantic

Seth E. Pope, N. Y. 1900-1, went to Pratt institute July 1 as assistant in the technology library.

Julia Rupp, librarian of Oil City, has resigned and joined the staff of the New York public library.

Walter L. Brown, librarian of the Public library of Buffalo, was married to Margaret B. McCabe on September

11. Both Mr Brown and Miss McCabe have been connected with the Buffalo public library for some time.

Alice C. Campbell (Pratt, '09) has been engaged as assistant by the library of the Geneseo State normal school.

Dr Lonna D. Arnett, N. Y. '08-9, has been appointed classifier in the U. S. Bureau of Education library, Washington.

Sara W. Eno, N. Y. '08-9, has been engaged as assistant in the catalog department of the University of Pennsylvania library.

Edyth Miller (Pratt) has been engaged as assistant librarian at the Normal college, New York, Elsie Adams having resigned.

Joseph L. Wheeler, N. Y. '09, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Public library of the District of Columbia, Washington.

Florence B. Gray, B. L. S., N. Y. '09, began work as assistant in the Sociology section of the New York state library July 15.

Julia E. King, N. Y. '05-6, has resigned her position as assistant in Vassar college library to become cataloger for the Board of Water Supply, New York city.

Caroline F. Gleason (Pratt) resigned her position at the head of the children's department in the Utica public library, to be married to S. J. Humes-ton of Montana.

Elizabeth S. Howell (Pratt) has resigned her position in the Princeton university library and announced her engagement to C. S. Thompson of the Brooklyn public library.

Elizabeth Harvey, N. Y. '91, died in Philadelphia on July 10, 1909. Miss Harvey's home was in Wilkesbarre, Pa., and her library record dates from 1888, when she became classifier and cataloger at the Osterhout free library in her home town. In 1890 she became a

member of the cataloging staff of the New York state library and resigned in 1893 to take up bibliographic work in Philadelphia.

Georgia Rathbone (Pratt) has resigned her position in the Utica public library to accept the headship of the loan department in the Osterhout library of Wilkes-Barré, Pa.

Isabella M. Cooper, B. L. S., N. Y. '08, has resigned her position in the Muhlenberg branch of the New York public library to take charge of the reference department of the Newark (N. J.) free public library.

The annual report of the Canastota (N. Y.) public library shows 6158 v., with a circulation of 16,119, an increase of 1019 over last year, and 1162 registered readers.

It has been a successful year of activity in library work, and each department shows progress, specially the reference room.

Carl P. P. Vitz, N. Y. '07, resigned his position as assistant librarian of the Public library of the District of Columbia in May, to become assistant to the director of the New York state library. Mr Vitz was graduated from Adelbert college in 1904 and spent one year at the Western Reserve university library school before entering the school at Albany. He brings to his new position a library experience covering nearly 11 years, nine of which were spent in the Public and Western Reserve university libraries, Cleveland, Ohio, and two in the Public library of the District of Columbia.

The twentieth annual report of the Carnegie library of Braddock, Pa., records 52,440 v. in the library. Less than 100 v. were missing at the biennial inventory. The children's department was removed from the third to the first floor. Reclassification of the library is under way by the regular staff. The report recommends the establishment of a bindery. The work

with the schools occupies a promising place, 132,787 v. being circulated through the schools last year.

An interesting report on the work of the Carnegie club, which is connected with the library, is given.

The latest report of the New York Society library shows continued expansion of its activities. Besides supplying the chief clubs of the city with books, the library furnishes literature to the U. S. Military academy at West Point and private schools on the Hudson; books go to members in France, Italy, Spain, Great Britain, Canada and all over the United States, so that through its traveling libraries the educational work may be said to be international in scope.

Last December, its history, covering the period from 1698 to 1908 was published by the De Vinne Press. Charles Knowles Bolton in the Boston *Evening Transcript* pronounces it, "The finest library history ever published in America."

The chief statistics shown in the second annual report of the James V. Brown library, Williamsport, Pa., are: Accessions, 2688 v.; total on hand, 17,255 v.; receipts, \$9826.74; expenditures, \$10,105.29 (principal items, books and magazines, \$1412.35; bindery, \$1624.41; salaries, \$4894.50); circulation 122,788 v., of which 79,542 v. were juvenile; attendance at lectures, 2497, at art exhibition, 844.

The principal work of the year was the opening of an art and subsidiary reference room, the completing of several sets of periodicals and the issuance of printed lists of books of technology and gardening.

The circulation showed a slight decrease from that of the previous year, owing chiefly to the abnormal use made of the library during its first year of operation and a necessary reduction in the appropriation for books. The city has a population of less than 40,000, so that the per capita issue is over

three; over 9000 readers' cards are in force, or nearly one to every four persons; 21,536 persons used the library for reading and reference.

Central

Edna A. Brown (Pratt) was married June 1 to Will E. Sim of Urbana, Ill.

Mary Lytle, N. Y. '08-9, has been appointed cataloger, Public library, Superior, Wis.

Sara E. Johnston, N. Y. '08-9, began her duties as cataloger at Purdue university September 1.

Maude Derickson (Pratt) has been appointed assistant in the library of the University of Minnesota.

Ella G. Parmele, formerly librarian at Oshkosh, Wis., was married July 12 to F. E. Alvord of Sandusky, Ohio.

Miriam Noyes (Pratt, 1909) was appointed librarian of the Oshkosh public library and assumed the duties of the position June 1.

Effie L. Power has resigned from the Cleveland public library to accept a position in the children's department of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Mrs Julia Harron (New York '05) has resigned her position in the State library of New York, to become first assistant to the editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*.

Annette P. Ward has been appointed assistant librarian of the Western Reserve historical society, Cleveland, Ohio. Miss Ward has been connected with the library since January, 1909.

S. Louise Mitchell, N. Y. '03-4, has resigned her position in the Broadway branch of the Cleveland public library to become assistant librarian in the School of education, University of Chicago.

Eleanor E. Hawkins (Pratt '05) of the Buffalo public library has been granted a six months' leave of absence to assist in the editorial work of the

A. L. A. Booklist office at Madison, Wis. This office has in hand the compilation of the Supplement to the *A. L. A. Catalog*, to which Miss Hawkins will give the larger part of her time.

Lydia E. Kingley (Wisconsin '07) has been appointed librarian of the State normal school of Warrensburg, Mo., for the ensuing year to take the place of Flora B. Roberts, who has been granted a year's leave of absence. Miss Roberts will spend the year at the University of Michigan.

Charles H. Brown, N. Y. '01, has resigned his position as reference librarian at the John Crerar library, Chicago, to become assistant librarian of the Brooklyn public library. Mr. Brown carries with him the highest respect of the library workers of Chicago and a deep personal regard from all who have come in contact with him as travel secretary for the West. His uniform courtesy, efficient helpfulness and capability of high order won for him a circle of devoted friends among those who knew him and his work in the six years he was in Chicago. Deep regret at his leaving is mingled with gratification at his enlarged opportunity in Brooklyn.

The Chicago public library during the summer opened two branch libraries in school houses, for the use and convenience of the residents of the neighborhood. The first was in the Montefiore school, in charge of Edna Whiteman of the Cleveland public library, who came to Chicago for the purpose of organizing and conducting the work during the summer months.

The second was in the Burr school, in charge of Mabel E. Blake of the New York public library, whose experience in the Ninety-sixth street branch of that library fitted her specially to take up this work.

Both rooms have a collection of books for circulation and for reading-room use. About 40 current periodicals are on file in each branch. Story hours

were held on Saturday afternoons during the summer and most satisfactory results were obtained.

The libraries are open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m., and Sunday from 9 to 6.

Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, superintendent of circulation in New York public library since the consolidation of the system in 1901, has been appointed librarian of St Louis to succeed F. M. Crunden. Dr Bostwick is not only one of the strong members of the A. L. A., of which he has been president, but has achieved a reputation as a literary worker, a forceful and ready speaker and a man interested in public affairs generally. He was graduated from Yale in 1881, receiving Ph. D. in 1883. He was connected with the preparation of a number of cyclopedias, did editorial work on the Standard dictionary, *The Forum* and *Literary Digest* before coming into library work in 1895 as librarian of the old New York free library. He was librarian of Brooklyn, 1899-1901, returning then to the position he has just resigned for St Louis. He took up his new work October 1.

The fifth biennial report of the Public library commission of Indiana covers the period from November, 1906, to September, 1908. The report gives summaries showing the activities of the commission, showing library conditions over the state at large, with interesting comparisons of conditions existing two years ago. Two contributions of interest, not only to Indianians, but to librarians in general, are the historical sketches by Dr Horace Ellis on "Indiana's first library" and Joel Hiatt on "The Workingmen's institute at New Harmony, Ind."

In addition to these contributions, information which relates to commission activities includes statements regarding library organization in Indiana, summer school for librarians, library institutes, publications and distributions and traveling libraries. Separate chapters relate to new library buildings in Indiana,

Carnegie libraries in Indiana, libraries in Indiana state institutions, paragraph and tabulated statistical reports of Indiana libraries, and maps showing the growth in number of public libraries and traveling library stations in Indiana.

During the period covered by the report, 24 new public libraries were established in Indiana, making 118 public and 142 educational libraries in that state, a total of 260. In 1899, when the library commission was established, there were only 52 public libraries in Indiana.

Three years ago 40 of the 92 counties in the state were without public libraries, but this number was reduced to 19 in the year 1908.

West

Julius Luth has been appointed successor to Asa Don Dickinson as librarian of the Carnegie library of Leavenworth, Kan.

Alfred E. Whittaker, for many years librarian of the University of Colorado, Boulder, retired in September, receiving the retiring allowance under provision of the Carnegie educational fund. Walter L. Barnes will be in charge of the library for the coming year.

The report of the Lincoln (Neb.) city library gives a circulation of 152,928 v., an increase of 15,062 over last year; 14,745 v. were circulated through the schools; 4266 books were added, making a total of 26,458 v. in the library.

In five years the total circulation has increased 76 per cent, the adult department 51 per cent and the juvenile circulation 149 per cent.

The most notable feature of the year was the erection of the Northeast branch and the selection and preparation of 1000 books for its shelves.

South

Miss T. D. Barker of Atlanta, Ga., has been appointed assistant in charge of the library extension work of the Alabama state department of archives

and history. Miss Barker was educated at Agnes Scott college, and is a graduate of the Library training school of the Carnegie library of Atlanta, Ga., 1909. She entered upon her work July 5.

N. L. Goodrich, for some time librarian of the University of West Virginia, has been elected librarian of the University of Texas to succeed Phineas L. Windsor. Mr Goodrich is to have the rank of adjunct professor.

Minnie Leatherman, for some time connected with the Public library of Louisville, Ky., and who spent last year at the Pratt institute library school, has been appointed secretary of the new North Carolina library commission.

Lucy E. Fay, B. L. S., N. Y. '08, has resigned her position as assistant in the Educational extension division of the New York state library to succeed Nathaniel L. Goodrich as librarian of University of West Virginia library, Morgantown.

Maud M. Pugsley, formerly of Chicago, for the last year a resident of Little Rock, Ark., has been elected librarian of the Public library of that city. She was formerly librarian of the Adams memorial library of Wheaton, Ill., was reference librarian in the Art institute library of Chicago for a time, and was afterward library organizer in Michigan.

The naming of the new branch of the Carnegie library of Atlanta, Ga., was decided by popular vote, and, to the great satisfaction of everybody, the name Anne Wallace Branch was chosen, in honor of the former librarian, now Mrs Max Franklin Howland of New York. Mrs Howland will be the guest of honor at the opening of the branch in October.

Lucile Virden of Montgomery took the position of librarian at Talladega, Ala., August 1. Miss Virden is a graduate of the 1909 class of the Carnegie Library training school at Atlanta.

Previous to her course in Atlanta she had been an assistant in the Carnegie library of Montgomery, and had also taken a course in practical bookbinding in the Public library at Newark, N. J.

The annual report of the Missouri library commission gives the number of volumes in the various institutions of the state as 200,000; seven state institutions, non-educational, have libraries; 12 college libraries and 10 public libraries are added to the list of last year. Four colleges have librarians whose duties are confined to the library. In 14 cases the librarian is one of the faculty; in three cases office duties are added; all use student help to some extent. The State university and four of the five Normal schools report trained librarians who have no other duties. Ten public libraries serve the township or county as well as the city; eight college libraries allow the use of the library by the city and county residents. The Traveling library department has been the most important development of the year. The commission has something like 80 fixed groups in addition to the 26 libraries donated by the Federation of women's clubs; 51 libraries of 50 v. each have been sent out to taxpayers' centers; 14 to rural schools; four to teachers' clubs.

The report is illustrated with half-tone plates of library buildings, and a map showing location of libraries. The last legislature provides for a General Assembly library, for the use of its members, under the supervision of the commission. The commission appropriation was increased to \$12,000 for the biennial period.

Pacific Coast

Charles W. Smith, assistant librarian of the University of Washington, Seattle, was married August 25 to Christina Denby of Lincoln, Ill.

The Seattle public library has a number of extra copies of its monthly bulletin, volumes 1-7, 1896-1907, and also

of its annual reports, 1896-1899, 1903-1908, and will be glad to supply any of these to libraries wishing to complete their sets.

Anne Rosenmüller (Pratt), for three years past in charge of the periodicals in the library of the University of California, was married June 30 to Berthold Wath of Oakland.

Asa Don Dickinson, librarian of the Public library of Leavenworth, Kan., resigned his position to become librarian of Washington State college, Pullman, Wash., on September 1.

Alta L. Stansbury, Illinois '03, for six years librarian of the Public library of Port Huron, Mich., was elected librarian of the Public library of Spokane, Wash. She began her work October 1.

Charlotte E. Wallace (Pratt) has resigned her position as head of the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, to become head of the Circulating department of the Seattle (Wash.) public library.

Mrs Alice G. Whitbeck, New York '02-3, resigned her position as children's librarian of the Berkeley (Cal.) public library, July 1. Ione Tucker of the New York public library will fill her place.

Canada

Edith V. Bethune (Pratt) has resigned from the library of McGill university to enter that of the University of Toronto.

The Library of Parliament, Canada, was destroyed by fire September 1. It contained 100,000 v. of valuable works, the law collection, a gift of Sir Oliver Mowatt, being one of the most complete and valuable law collections in existence.

L. J. Burpee, librarian of the Carnegie library of Ottawa, Canada, has been made a fellow of the Royal geographical society of Great Britain. The

action was taken in recognition of the contributions of Mr Burpee to the work of the society. His book, "The search for the Western seas," is highly commended by the Royal society.

The report of J. R. C. Honeyman, librarian of the Public library of Regina, Sask., Canada, records a year of increased activity. With 3401 v. on the shelves there was a circulation of 21,034. The receipts for the year were \$8279. The library reports no loss of books from the open shelves. The library is open from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. week days, and from 2 to 5 p. m. Sundays. Three assistants are employed. The outlook for future growth is very satisfactory.

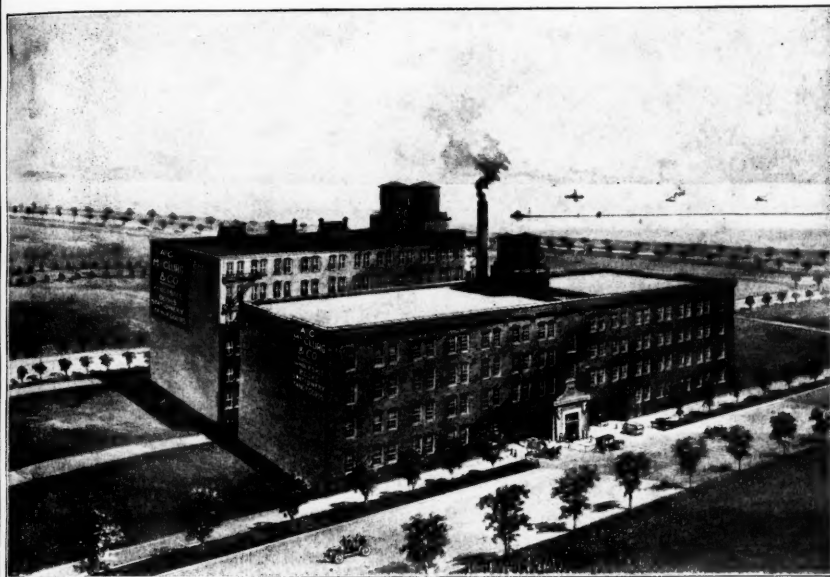
Foreign

Mary E. Wood (special student, Pratt) has an article in the *Boone Review*, February, 1909, published by Boone college, Wu Chang, China, describing the new library plans and the contemplated extension of the library's work.

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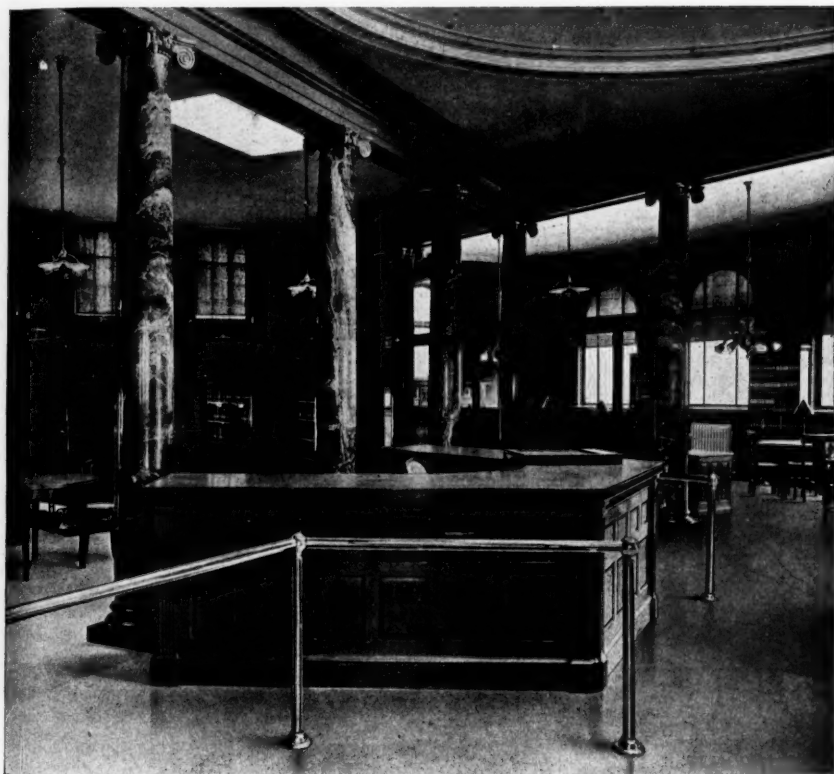
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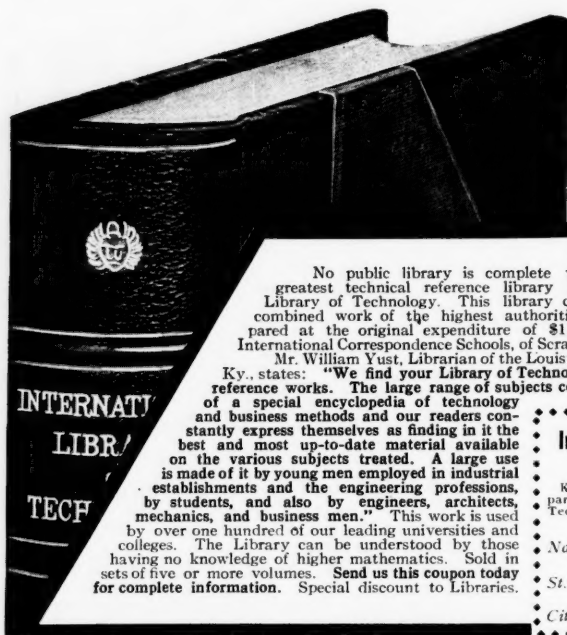
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